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Accounts of Edward IV.

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HE Pell Issue and Receipt Rolls, with which we began our investigations of early finance, come to an end in their original series with the reign of Edward IV. For most purposes they might almost be said to end with the reign of Henry VI, those for the reign of Edward IV. being defective in number and ill kept. Out of forty-four Issue Rolls that ought to be forthcoming twenty-seven are wanting, and of these only eight give us totals ready summed up. In the early days, not only every term but every week, and sometimes every day, gave its own total. For the wanting Issue Rolls we get in some cases substitutes in the shape of the Teller's Rolls, a series which began apparently in Michaelmas, 3 Henry IV. (1401), when Laurence Allerthorpe became Treasurer. These Rolls supply us with many valuable historical *data*, as, for instance, a complete muster-roll of the army raised in 1475 for the grand abortive attack on France. These Rolls are also convenient in this respect, that they give us both receipts and expenditure on the two sides of the page of skin; but, unfortunately, they only record the cash transactions under the charge of the three Tellers of the Exchequer (*numeratores*), the heavy payments made by "assignments" or drafts not being entered, or being only occasionally entered: thus the Teller's Rolls give no idea of the total revenue or expenditure of a given term. Nor do they attempt to keep any balance between their receipts and expenditure. For instance, the Receipt-side of the Teller's Roll for Easter, 11 Ed-

ward IV., gives the total of cash paid in as £13,605; while the Issue-side marks payments to the amount of £20,190 8s. On turning to the Pell Receipt Roll for the term, we find that the actual cash receipts came to £20,499 6s. 6d., so that the Tellers must have received £6,892 more than they entered as received, though they enter it as paid out. Apparently the entries on the Receipt-side were held of less importance than those on the Issue-side. But, again, in the next term (Michaelmas, 11 Edward IV.) we have a startling discrepancy in the very opposite direction, between the receipts marked on the Teller's and those on the Pell Rolls. The Teller's Roll has a string of gifts and loans (*Dona et Mutua*) to the amount of £12,904 10s., not one penny of which appears on the Pell Receipt Rolls either of that or of the following terms; while the Pell Receipt Roll of the term marks other loans to the amount of £1,040, all "repaid." A similar discrepancy occurs in Michaelmas term of the thirteenth year: the Teller's Roll has "loans and gifts," £3,808, with about £2,150 repaid; the Pell Receipt Roll has only loans to the amount of £2,150, and all marked as repaid. On the subject of "gifts" and loans more or less compulsory, I may say that after diligent search I found slight but sufficient confirmation of the charges brought by chroniclers against Edward of having extensively levied "benevolences" in 1474 and 1475. These receipts appear to have been carefully kept off the Rolls. The Teller's Roll for Easter, 15 Edward IV. (No. 51 A), no doubt has a suspicious entry of payment, "*collectoribus benevolentiae dom. Regi concessae*," but no proceeds were entered on the other side, except in connection with subsidies voted by Parliament; and I was in a state of perplexity, till at last, under the year 1478, I came upon a damning entry on the Pell Receipt Roll (Michaelmas, 18 Edward) recording receipt of fifteen sums from as many yeomen, making only £50 in all—"de *denerariis Dom. Regi erga viagium suum in regnum Franciae anno XV de benevolentia sua concessis*."

In justice to Edward, I must remark that while exacting these illegal and unpopular benevolences, he left a large Parliamentary subsidy uncollected for five years, and only

called it in when he engaged in hostilities with Scotland in 1480-81. The subsidy, no doubt, was not exigible till the autumn of 1475, while Edward wanted the money twelve months earlier; still the fact remains that being entitled to raise a war subsidy in November, 1475, and the war having come to an end before that time, he made no serious attempt to raise the money till another war broke out. Perhaps the people would not pay, as the country had certainly been drained of money.

To return to the revenue of the reign. The readers of the *Antiquary* have been given to understand before this that the Pell Rolls in themselves give no sure evidence either of the receipts or the expenditure of a given year. They generally err in excess; at least, that was the first general error that I was able to point out. But they also err in omitting to notice considerable payments made directly by Crown Receivers to Crown creditors. As far as I can make out, if a man obtained by patent a charge amounting to a grant of a definite portion of some source of royal income, he received his money at the fountain-head, so to speak, and the payment would not appear on the Pell Rolls, but it would appear on the enrolled account of the Crown officer or debtor who made the payment. On the other hand, if a man had a pension without any special charge, or with only a general charge not amounting to a legal grant of part of the revenue, the payment would appear on the Pell Rolls.

I put this forward as a suggestion, and subject to all correction; but the undoubted fact remains that the most trustworthy view of the royal revenue is to be derived from the analyses of the special accounts of the several Revenue officers; happy we if even so we attain to something satisfactory. To the requirements of scientific bookkeeping, we shall most certainly not attain; but history may be content with something less than that; and I do not despair of bringing out by degrees fair substantial estimates of the revenue of this and other reigns.

(1) One head will give us no trouble, that of the subsidies voted by Parliament and Convocation: the Parliamentary fifteenth and tenth, subject to the established remissions, remains at £31,000. The tenth of

landed revenues granted in 1472 came to something more, say, £35,000 or £36,000. As no legal grants in anticipation could be made of these taxes, the entire proceeds always figure on the Rolls. But we have also the evidence of the statements made in Parliament as to the amounts yielded (*Rot. Parl.*, vi. 113, 115).

Of fifteenths and tenths, the regular lay subsidies, just three were granted in the first nine years of the reign, namely, one in 1463 and two in 1468, making £93,000 in all, which may be treated either as an average contribution of £10,333 6s. 8d. to each of the nine years, or, more correctly, as furnishing a *bonus* of £31,000 to each of the financial years, 1463-64, 1468-69, and 1469-70. For the war of 1475, Parliament granted between 1472 and 1475 the especial tenth above mentioned, and besides that two and three quarters' subsidies or ordinary fifteenths and tenths, the whole being estimated to make up £120,000. The three quarters' subsidy was not raised till 1480. Against this we might perhaps set the proceeds of the "benevolences," only I do not believe that they came to as much money; and they certainly have no right to figure under the head of Parliamentary grants. Leaving out the "benevolences" and the three quarters' subsidy, we get about £100,000, which might be spread over either the three years when the money was collected, or the latter half of the reign; but either plan would, in my opinion, be improper, as it appears from the Rolls that the bulk of the money was applied to war expenditure as stipulated by Parliament. Some portion, doubtless, found its way to the king's "Chamber;" but De Cominès' assertion that Edward made the war for the sake of pocketing the money he did not spend is a calumny, though a calumny probably emanating from Louis XI. himself. The £100,000, therefore, had better be left altogether out of our estimate of the yearly revenue; but the three quarters' subsidy, equivalent to £22,500, may be allowed to count in the revenue either as a *bonus* for the year 1480, or as an aliquot contribution for each of the last eleven years of the reign. To form an intelligible idea of the revenue, it will be necessary to leave altogether out of

calculation the period of the struggle with Warwick—a time of civil war and confusion. For financial purposes, this may be made to extend from March, 1469, to March, 1472, so that we shall endeavour to frame estimates first for the eight years from March, 1461, to March, 1469; and secondly for the eleven years from March, 1472, to March, 1483.

For the yield of the clerical tenths in this reign, I have not got any positive authority. Under Henry VI., we estimated the Canterbury tenth at about £13,000. In May, 1481, I have a note of £6,006 paid in as the proceeds of a tenth voted in the previous month. The amount is entered as a "tenth," but a "half-tenth" must have been meant, and that will bring the sum fairly up to our old estimate. Nine and a half of these were granted during the reign, and as they were all paid into the general Exchequer, free from all stipulations, they must count in the average revenue. Four of these were granted in the first eight years of the reign, and five and a half in the last eleven.

The proceeds of the York tenths are an impalpable if not a vanishing quantity. Under Henry VI., we took the amount by a liberal estimate at £2,200. But in Michaelmas term, 14 Edward IV. (1474), we have on the Pell Receipt Roll £582 14s. 4d. paid in as the yield of a half-tenth. In the ensuing term (Easter, 15 Edward), we have on the corresponding Receipt Roll £801 7s. 7d. paid in as a tenth; probably this should be read as "balance of tenth," as in the next term again (Mich. 15), we find the collection of another tenth begun. With these facts, I do not see how we can well estimate the York tenth at more than £1,500.

With respect to the difficulty of getting money out of the pockets of the Northern people in those days, I may mention that in 1474 it was stated in Parliament that though the rest of England had paid its share of the tenth on land voted in 1472, nothing as yet had been collected in Cheshire, Lancashire, Cumberland, Westmoreland, Durham, or Northumberland.

Of these York tenths two and a half were granted in the first eight years of the reign, making at most an average yearly contribution of £500, and two in the last eleven years.

The proceeds of the Hanaper may be stated with great exactitude. I have all the figures before me as taken from the Enrolled Foreign Accounts of the reign, and £1,500 may be taken as a fair average for the net receipts of the earlier years of the reign, the office charges and deductions keeping near £600 a year on the average. The latter years of the reign show a falling off in this branch of the revenue. Why the business of the Chancery fell off I cannot say; but the net receipts can only be taken at £920 a year.

The history of the Tower Mint and Exchange is also to be found in the same Enrolled Accounts, and in our first period we come upon some transactions of general interest. Since 1411 the "sterling" or silver penny, the standard unit, had contained 15 grains troy of silver, the pound Tower of the metal yielding 360 pennies: while the pound Tower of gold yielded 50 nobles, weighing 108 grains, and worth 6s. 8d. each, the ratio in value of gold to silver being as 1 to 11 $\frac{1}{2}$. The penny was now reduced to 12 grains troy, so that the pound Tower would yield 450 pennies, or 37s. 6d., instead of 30s. as before. The gold currency had to be altered also. Eventually the pound Tower of the metal was made to yield 45 "rose nobles" or "royals" of 120 grains each, and worth 10s. of the new silver, the ratio of gold to silver being thus brought up to 1 to 12. New "nobles," worth 6s. 8d. of the new currency, were also introduced, sixty-seven and a half of these going to the pound of metal. These reduced nobles being stamped with an angel, became known as "noble-angels," and later as "angels" simply.

The motives which have induced kings to lower their currencies have never been satisfactorily made out. A common theory has been that the kings being in debt, thought that by lowering the currency they could clear off their obligations more cheaply. This implies that the relation of a king to his subjects was one of giving rather than receiving; and that kings were more anxious about paying their debts than raising their revenues. Both assumptions appear to me to be directly opposed to the historic facts, which are that mediæval kings were little troubled with their liabilities, which could

always be evaded; and that they regarded their subjects primarily as sources of income.

The record of the facts connected with the present transaction suggests that currencies were altered simply for the sake of the profit made by the Crown from recoining the money; and that the alteration of currency took the shape of a debasement, because it was found that a debasement forced all holders of the old currency to bring it in for recoinage. In the present case the profit was further increased by raising the seignorage or charge for minting; but the change was so managed as to offer a seeming profit both to Crown and subject. Hitherto the charge for coining a pound of silver had been 1s, the merchant who brought a pound to the Tower receiving only 29s. of the 30s. struck from his bullion. Now the deduction was to be raised to 4s. 6d.; but as the pound would yield 37s. 6d. of the new currency, instead of 30s. as before, the merchant, after deduction of the 4s. 6d., would still have 33s.—“iii shillings more than he had byfore.” (W. Gregory, 227; Camden Society; Gairdner.)*

At all events, the fiscal results were most satisfactory. Between the 1st September, 1464, and the 20th September, 1466, the Crown netted £15,428 by the operation. The amount of bullion brought to the Tower in that time was 12,489 pounds of gold, and 55,334 pounds of silver, representing, as we may suppose, the bulk of England's metallic currency at the period.

With this bonus, the average net receipts of the first eight years may be taken at £2,000, two missing years being filled up conjecturally. For the latter part of the reign the net receipts cannot be stated with perfect certainty, as special charges seem to have been laid on the account. But I notice that in dealing with the great bonus from the recoinage of 1464-66, when no charges had been, or could have been, laid on the fund, the proportion taken by the king was three-fifths of the gross receipts. If we apply this rule to the stated gross receipts of the latter years of the reign, we shall get an average income of £547, or, say, £550 a year. The stated net receipts only come to £321 a

* For details of the monetary change, see Ruding's *Annals of Coinage*, i. 268, 272, 282, etc.

year, but this is certainly less than the proper amount.

The old Crown revenues, as I designate them, include the returns from all the landed estates of the Crown, by whatsoever title accrued; the feudal incidents; and the fee-farm rents of the counties and towns. An exact statement of the revenues for which the sheriffs were responsible could only be obtained by an analysis of the Pipe Rolls, a task I have not yet undertaken. For our estimates of these, we must rely upon the Pell Rolls and certain statements in Parliament; but I can give more exact statements of other portions of the landed revenue. For Cornwall and Devon, we have in the Enrolled Foreign Accounts the returns of the Receiver for the first ten years. The gross receipts run about £3,200 a year with slight fluctuations, and the net receipts may be put at £2,300 for the whole reign. What became of the Receiver's accounts after the tenth year, I cannot say. For the Duchy of Lancaster, we have five years of the Receiver's accounts in the latter part of the reign. The net amount may be taken at £3,000 on the average; and this, again, must suffice for the whole reign, no other Receiver's accounts being forthcoming.

For North Wales we have two Ministers' accounts for the years Mich. 4-5, and Mich. 6-7 Ed. IV. (Q.R.M.A., Nos. 143, 144). The gross receipts may be called £1,000. In the one year the whole is spent on the salaries of the local staff: Justiciar, Chamberlain, Master Forester, and the wages of the necessary garrisons. The other year yields a surplus of £50. We cannot, therefore, place the average net income of North Wales for the first period above £50. For South Wales we have also two complete accounts: one for the year Mich. 4-5; the other for the year Mich. 13-14 Ed. IV. (Id. Nos. 190, 181). The gross receipts in the earlier year are £825, and the net surplus is £360, the Herbert family realizing the bulk of the difference. In the latter year the receipts rise to £1,450 14s. 6d., and the available surplus to about £1,000. We may, therefore, place the net revenue from Wales, North and South, in the earlier period at £400 as the highest possible. Assuming North Wales to have risen to £100 a year net, we might

take £1,100 as the net revenue from the Principality for our second period. In the twelfth year of Henry VI., it amounted to £2,236. These Welsh accounts of Edward IV. reveal an interesting constitutional fact, and a word also new to me. The word is "Powderbeter," meaning a grinder or maker of gunpowder (M.A., No. 143, sup.). The constitutional fact is this, that provincial assemblies were held in Wales to vote money, Wales not being represented in Parliament. In 1466 a subsidy of 400 marks (£266 13s. 4d.) was granted by the freeholders and townspeople of Anglesey, to be paid in six years. In 1473 the counties of South Wales (and presumably of North Wales also) voted a *Tallagium Recognitionis* to the young Prince of Wales, in honour of his first visit to the Principality.

The Earldom of Chester in the 12th of Henry VI. was stated to yield £764. Considering the general decay, we can hardly allow more than £500 a year for the present reign. For the aggregate revenues, therefore, of Lancaster, Cornwall, Wales, and Chester, we get for the first period an estimate of £5,800 a year, and for the second period of £6,900. In the 12th of Henry VI., they made up £11,900 of the total of £24,580, at which the old Crown revenues were stated by the Treasurer. If we were to assume that the other branches of the old Crown revenues had not undergone the same law of decay, we should have them at £12,680 for both periods as a guess. But I think we cannot assume an exemption from the law of decay, and that £11,000 will be an ample estimate. I may add that in the sixteenth year of Edward, the Pell Receipt Rolls give the returns under this head as only £4,167 (without Wales, Lancaster, and Cornwall). But there, again, direct payments must have come into play. For the old Crown revenues, therefore, I make an estimate of £17,200 for the first period, and £17,900 for the second period.

(To be continued.)



The Erdingtons of Erdington.

AT the Norman Conquest, Edwin, Earl of Mercia, was dispossessed of the Manor of Herdynton (as it was formerly called), in favour of William Fitz-Ausculf, Baron of Dudley, a friend of the Conqueror, and owner of the neighbouring manors of Estone, Saltley, Bromford, etc.

The etymology of the word Erdington seems to be "a town in the wood," from the Saxon "arden," signifying a wood; and from the same source the names of many Warwickshire families and villages are derived.



ARMS OF ERDINGTON, "AZURE, TWO LIONS PASSANT OR."

In the general survey taken from the Domesday Book, it is written "Hardintone," and is estimated at three hides valued at xxxs., having a mill rated at jjjs.; woods containing one mile in length, and half a mile in breadth.

Fitz-Ausculf granted the manor to a kinsman, who assumed the name of Erdington in consequence. He built there a residence which appears to have been strongly fortified, after the manner of the feudal residences of that period, having a large double moat on the front and two sides, whilst the river Tame served as an effective protection of the back portion. Situated in the moat was an ancient

chapel, traces of which existed at the commencement of the seventeenth century.

Henry de Erdington's descendants resided here with great opulence for nearly four hundred years. Not a vestige of the original building now remains; the pleasant picturesque grange known as Erdington Hall (although on the site of the original building) dates only from the seventeenth century.

The last of the Holtes, Sir Charles, resided and built the large room here; one of the Jennens family also occupied the hall for a considerable period. Under the will of Sir Thomas Holte, a rent-charge arising out of the Manors of Erdington, and Pype was assigned for the support of the inmates of the Aston Almshouses.

Sir Henry de Erdynton died about 1165, and was succeeded by his son William, of whom nothing definite is known. In 1203 Thomas de Erdinton (the son of William) obtained the valuable acquisition (from Fitz-Ausculf's descendant, Ralph de Someri, Lord of Dudley) of the Manor of Aston to hold by him and his heirs by a rather curious tenure, that of rendering a pair of gilt spurs, or the price of them, *viz.*, vi.d. payable at Easter for all services and demands whatsoever.

Sir Thomas on account of his attachment to King John was greatly honoured by that monarch, and in 1205 was appointed Sheriff of the counties of Salop and Stafford and Chamberlain to the King. In 1213 he was, with Ralph Fitz-Nicholas, sent on a secret embassy to treat with one of the Moorish Soldans of Spain for assistance on behalf of the King against the rebellious Barons, and, if we are to believe the old chronicler Matthew Paris, the terms of this proposed treaty were most ignominious; the King of England stipulating to become a Mohammedan, and hold his kingdom only as a vassal to the "great Kyngs of Africa, Marrochia, and Spayne," on the required assistance being granted.

On the return from the embassy, he compounded with the Stauntons for the honour of Montgomery, and in 1215 he purchased the wardship and marriage of the son and heir of William Fitz-Alan, a powerful Shropshire baron, with the intention of marrying his daughter Maria to him, for the considera-

tion of 5,000 marks; Randolph Blundeville, Earl of Chester, and other nobles being sureties. He was in 1216 ordered by the King to proceed against the Marmions of Tamworth Castle which he did effectively, taking many prisoners and a large store of munitions of war.

Sir Thomas died about 1219, assigning the Manor of Erdington and Aston (*inter alia*) to his wife Lady Rosia in trust for his son Giles, who was then a minor. This Giles de Erdinton was a great benefactor to the Church, especially the Monastery of Newport Pagnell, otherwise known as Tykford Priory. He died in 1272, and was succeeded by his son and heir, Henry de Erdinton, who married Maud, daughter of Roger de Someri, Baron of Dudley, one of the co-heirs of Nicola, daughter and co-heiress of Hugo d'Albini, Earl of Arundel. It is probable that the arms of the de Erdinton family were assumed from that relation to the de Someris (Erdinton, "Azure, two lions passant or; Someri, Or, two lions passant azure"). Such assumptions were frequent about this period as, for example, de Birmingham, "Partie per pale indented, or and gules;" and the arms of de Edgbaston, "Partie per pale indented, or and azure."

In 1277 Henry de Erdinton accompanied King Edward I. on his Welsh expedition, serving under the banner of William de Beauchamp, Earl of Warwick; he died in 1282, possessed of vast estates in Warwickshire, Leicestershire, Shropshire, and Staffordshire. To the ruins of Catesby, in Northamptonshire, he left the perpetual patronage of Yardley Church for masses to be said for the repose of "hys soole and hys ancestors," and directions that his body should be buried before the high altar of St. Edmund's Chapel in the said convent. His widow afterwards married one William de Byfield.

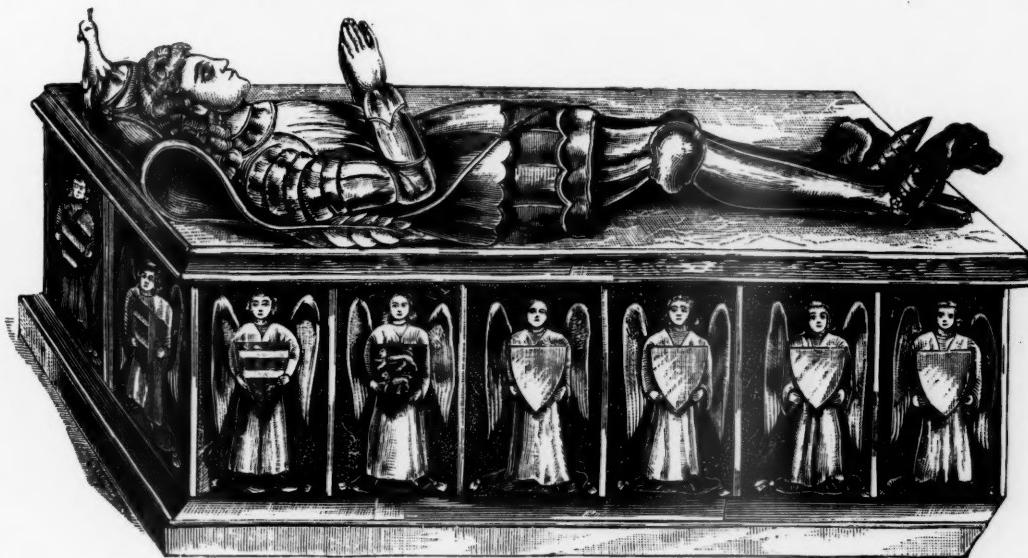
Henry de Erdinton (son of the last-named Henry) succeeded to the family estates, and kept such an establishment that in 1310 Walter Langton, Bishop of Lichfield and Coventry, ordered one John de Lemyn頓, a sub-deacon, to celebrate divine service at his Manor House of Erdington.

In 1314 he was one of the commissioners appointed to inspect the troops under orders

for the Scottish expedition, in accordance with the statute of Winchester. During the troublesome close of King Edward II.'s reign, he was again in commission on an inquiry as to what persons kept armed retainers in the country. He married Joan, daughter and heiress of Sir Thomas de Wolvey, of Wolvey in the county of Warwick, and founded the south aisle of Aston Church, commonly called the Erdington Chapel. He died about 1330, his daughter marrying Hugh de Holte, of Birmingham (the progenitor of the Holte

knight of the shire for the county of Warwick, in conjunction with Robert de Stafford. He married Margaret, daughter of Thomas Corbet, of Morton Corbet in the county of Salop, and died in 1395.

Thomas de Erdinton (son of the latest-named Thomas) served together with Thomas Lucy as representatives of the county of Warwick at the Parliament held at Westminster in 1411. He married Anne, daughter of Thomas de Harecourt or Harcourt, of Bosworth, and was Sheriff of Warwickshire



EFFIGY OF THOMAS DE ERDINGTON, FROM DUGDALE'S "WARWICKSHIRE."

family); and his son, Sir Giles de Erdinton, in 1346, was pardoned for not appearing to receive the honour of knighthood before the feast of St. Lawrence of the same year, as proclaimed by the King.

Sir Giles was in attendance on King Edward III. during the war in France, being of the retinue of John de Montgomeri, and displaying upon his banner a bend gules over paternal coat ("azur, two lions, passant or"). He married Elizabeth, daughter of Thomas Tolthorpe, of Rutland, and died about 1386, having held several high posts in the county; his son, Sir Thomas de Erdinton, was in 1386 returned to Parliament as

and Leicestershire in 1421. He died in 1434, and was buried in the Erdington Chapel of Aston Parish Church, where a single recumbent effigy of a knight in plated armour is supposed to represent this Thomas de Erdinton. His head rests on a helm which is surmounted by a peacock (the crest of the Harcourts), whilst his feet rest upon a lion (the badge of Erdinton). Round his neck is suspended a collar on which was formerly painted the Lancastrian cypher of repeated s.s. (Soverayne). The sides of the altar-tombs which support the effigy are divided into compartments containing angels with extended wings, supporting shields which

were originally emblazoned with the arms of Erdington, Someri, d'Albini, Pype, Harcourt, Bassett of Drayton, Bond, Botetourt, Mohun, and Strange. These arms were also to be seen three centuries ago in the heraldic tracery of the windows.

His son Thomas was Sheriff of Warwickshire in 1435 and 1446, and represented the county in Parliament in 1450. He was appointed on several commissions respecting the raising of loans to King Henry VI., and also on the levying of the subsidies granted by Parliament to that monarch. He afterwards deserted the Lancastrian cause and went over to Edward IV., who at the time was in great need of assistance. In the second year of that King's reign he was rewarded with the grant of the Manor of Bordesley, forfeited by the attainder of James, Earl of Wiltshire.

In 1465 he was on the commission of the peace for the county, but is not heard of after 1466; neither is there mention made of the family in any of the more recent "Visitations of the Heralds." It may therefore be assumed that the family either became extinct or changed their patronymic, for the estates passed into the hands of George, Duke of Clarence, in 1467, Sir William Harcourt being his steward, and afterwards belonging successively to Robert Wright, Sir Reginald Bray, Francis Englefield, Humphrey Dymoke, Walter Earl, and lastly Sir Walter Devereaux, who sold the estates in 1647, together with the Erdington Chantry, to Sir Thomas Holte, in whose family it continued till 1782, when Heneage Legge became possessed of the manor.

Sir Thomas de Erdinton founded a chantry in Aston Church (styled "Assheton prope Byrminyngham"), for one priest to celebrate divine service daily at the altar of the Blessed Virgin perpetually for "Ye goode estate of Kynge Henry ye sixt," and of him the said Sir Thomas and his wife Joyce, also the souls of their ancestors and benefactors. At the dissolution of the monasteries the revenues of the chantry were granted to Richard Pallady and Francis Foxall, citizens of London, and afterwards to the notorious Thomas Hawkyns, alias Fisher of Warwick.

Sir Thomas de Erdington and his wife were buried in Aston Church, where their effigies

of alabaster are placed on an altar-tomb of similar design to the one previously described.

The knight is in plate-armour, and wears the Yorkist collar of alternate suns and roses; the lady has a long peaked head-dress, close-fitting bodice and robe, with a cloak thrown open and falling over the shoulders. These effigies were considerably mutilated during the alterations to the floor in the sixteenth century.

The Erdington Chapel has recently been restored, and the windows richly adorned with the ancient coats of the founders, and though

Many centuries have been numbered,
Since in death the barons slumbered,
it is indeed a fitting resting-place for the last
of the de Erdingtons.

ALFRED J. RODWAY.



Yester Castle.

BY MRS. PHILIP CHAMPION DE CRESPIGNY.



O those who take an interest in the doings of their ancestors and love to dive into the mysteries of past days, there is, perhaps, no country affording a wider scope for their inquiries, or one more fruitful of results, than Scotland. Nearly every house of any importance has its history and store of family records and legends.

Among these ancient monuments, and holding a foremost place amongst the relics that delight the soul of the antiquarian, stands the old Castle of Yester.

Yester has been handed down to its present possessor, William Montagu Hay, tenth Marquis of Tweeddale, through many generations of illustrious ancestors. The Hays have owned large properties in Scotland, and taken their part in the history of that country from a very early date; records of a family bearing the name De Haya, in France, more than a century before the Conquest, afford, with other evidence, strong proofs that the family is of Norman origin. The Scottish Hays are descended from

Robert, son of William de Haya, who held the post of cupbearer to William IV. His descendant, Sir Gilbert Hay, married the daughter of Sir Simon Fraser, and thus acquired the Barony of Neidpath, which became their headquarters for some generations. The estate of Yester was brought into the family in the same manner, Sir William Hay having married the heiress of Sir Hugh de Gifford, of Yester, which family settled in Scotland during the reign of David I. His grandson, Hugh de Gifford, is the famous magician, or wizard, whose name is so intimately connected with the history of the old castle, and who is supposed to have built the enchanted hall, which still remains the principal point of interest in the ruin.

Yester Castle (originally from the Cymric *Ystrad*, signifying a *strath* or *dale*) has not been inhabited for 300 years; the last of the race who lived there was killed in the battle of Flodden Field. In 1548 it was taken by Lord Grey de Wilton, as he advanced to Lothian. It was the last stronghold to surrender to the English in the time of the Protector Somerset. From its almost impregnable position, it is easy to see that it was built in days when the first care in the erection of a dwelling-place was self-defence. The castle stands on the summit of a high, thickly-wooded mound, with steep, wall-like banks, and almost surrounded by water. The streams, Hope Water and Gifford Water, run on opposite sides of the hill, and, meeting at the eastern end, form a natural moat, which, with the precipitate ascent to the castle above, must have afforded ample protection to the inmates, who were thus left free to concentrate their energies on the defence of the entrance. This was undoubtedly at the western end, approached by a pathway crossing a bridge over the Gifford Water. Added to the natural defences of the place, a deep ditch, or trench, is still remaining, dug round the crown of the hill above the point where the waters meet, and remains of a ditch of this kind are to be seen, more or less, all round the castle. The trees of the surrounding woods have almost hidden the ruin, by their gradual increase in size and the thickness of their foliage, making it difficult in summer to obtain a view of the place until actually on the spot. This is a fact to regret,

for the old castle, standing up from the trees and looking down on all its surroundings, must have been an imposing addition to the landscape.

The masonry and walls have gradually diminished, even within the memory of living man; for several generations the place has been used as a stone quarry, the modern walls and bridges in the immediate neighbourhood testifying to the use to which the stonework has been put.

But there is still sufficient of the ruin remaining to make it of the very greatest interest, and to give a fair idea of the castle in its palmy days, when armour clanked through its halls and fair ladies listened to the voice of the bard, who discreetly suited his rhymes to his hearers, his faults passing unnoticed through the rose-coloured mists of gratified vanity.

Immediately round the front entrance itself, Father Time has done his work effectually, and there is very little remaining, beyond a fragment of stonework here and there; but on the opposite side of the hill, the watchtower still stands, in a very fair state of preservation. It is built above a vaulted chamber, which, there is every reason to suppose, must have once been the kitchen. The fireplace upon one side and its position in the building tend to establish this fact. A slit, or loophole, in the walls, for the purpose of shooting arrows at the enemy outside, remains quite intact. The tower is in a more ruined condition, although a rounded pilaster at one of the corners shows it to have been a highly finished piece of building for that period. Holes in the walls for beams indicate where the different floors must once have stood, and the slope at the top was probably intended for an arch. The walls are of enormous thickness, being from eight to ten feet across, and are composed of stones of all sizes and shapes.

At the eastern end of the castle there is another piece of wall, in very excellent repair, with a small room in one corner. Here are to be seen some of those curious marks on the stone, called *masons' marks*. One of the mason's marks on the stonework of Yester Castle is quite unique, and has never been found upon any other building. We may conclude that in Scotland a good mason was

then a comparatively *rara avis*, and that these marks or signatures were recognised as belonging to some particular workman, wherever they were found.

There are indications of a parapet all round the upper part of the castle.

A rounded arch in the wall, which it is to be presumed was once the back entrance to the place, is still in very good order ; it leads out on to a large earthwork just above the deep ditch already mentioned at the eastern end. Upon each side of this archway are holes opposite to one another, evidently intended for bars, to be placed across the entrance for protection in case of need ; and as in those days our ancestors appear to have been always engaged in defending their own goods, except when attacking somebody else's, this precaution was probably highly necessary.

Half-way down the side of the hill, descending into Gifford Water, there is a little sally-port, doubtless made with a view to escape, should the castle be in a state of siege. The bushes clustering round it and the shadow thrown by the hill would hide it from view, and with the attention of the enemy fixed upon the two principal entrances, a messenger from the besieged would easily be able to effect his escape, and get away under cover of the woods. This sally-port communicates with the castle through the most interesting part of the old ruin, the Enchanted Chamber.

The Goblin Hall, or *Bo'hall*, as the country folks call it, is a large vaulted room, and strikes the beholder at a glance with its perfect state of repair compared to the remainder of the castle. It is underground, and has two entrances—the sally-port already mentioned, which is reached by a long, low passage from the eastern end of the chamber, and the other, a flight of twenty-four stone steps coming out into the castle itself at the western end. The handsome roof, by its peculiar pointed arches, reveals its own date to connoisseurs. Rather more than half-way up the walls are some holes in the stonework, which look as if intended for beams that once supported a floor, and an entrance on the same level directly above the lower door, apparently confirms this idea ; but there is no reason that the upper floor should not have been added afterwards, for it seems hardly

likely that the architect would mar the fine effect of the vaulted roof by the addition of the second story.

At the eastern end of the chamber there is a hole in the roof, and a curious *slide* straight down from it in the wall, the object of which is not very apparent, and several theories have been put forward as the possible explanation ; one of the most plausible being, that the upper part of the hall had at one time been used as a granary or storehouse, and that the grain was shot down the slide from above, much in the same manner as we see it sometimes done in modern times. If the vault was reared by other than mortal hands, as it is commonly reported, this is a somewhat prosaic explanation of its uses, and we prefer the theory that has also been suggested, that it was intended for a chapel. Upon each side of the entrance is a recess, which looks as if it might have been a receptacle for holy water, and the hall lies east and west, although this throws it out of right angles with the walls of the castle. The slide with the hole at the top being at the east end, would be directly above the altar, and convenient for the escape of smoke from the incense. But if we are to believe that the vault was erected by magic, through the agency of Hugh de Gifford, as the legend tells us, it is hardly likely that the powers with whom he was in league would assist him in building a *chapel*, or that he would invoke their aid in such a cause.

Here again we find holes at each side of the entrance for the bars, which were so necessary for protection. Opposite to the door giving egress through the sally-port is a well, quite dry now, but which once, we may suppose, furnished the inmates of the castle with water. It is reached by a descent of thirty-six steps.

And this vault is, after the lapse of centuries, *perfectly intact* ! Not a stone out of its place, or a crack in the wall to be seen anywhere. It might be the work of a few years ago, and yet no special effort has been made to preserve it from decay. Are we to believe what Sir Walter Scott tells us in *Marmion*, founded on the traditions of the place, that Hugh de Gifford was a wizard, and that the hall rose by magic in a single night ? Or are we to take the commonplace view of it, that he was merely a master mason

of the highest order? Whichever it may be, certain it is that the Goblin Hall is a very finished piece of masonry, and that it is in as perfect repair as if its erection had been an event of yesterday.

There is no doubt that Hugh de Gifford was a remarkable person. He shut himself up in the old castle, holding little communication with the outer world, and was very much addicted to the study of astrology. The legend which Sir Walter Scott tells of the castle and its strange occupant is very interesting, and is worth repetition.

Marmion and his followers, having crossed the Lammermoor Hills, had halted for the night at the inn in the little village of Gifford, about four miles from the town of Haddington. Marmion was in melancholy mood, and suffering from a slight fit of remorse, having just returned Constance, with thanks, to the convent, where she was straightway walled up; and the host, to make the evening pass more pleasantly, related the history of the Goblin Hall at Yester Castle.

Alexander III., King of Scotland, being at war with Haco, King of Norway, whose fleet was lying in the Firth of Clyde, wished to learn the issue of the struggle, and with that object in view, repaired to the Castle of Yester, to consult Hugh de Gifford, the famous wizard. Lord de Gifford was carrying on his mysterious rites in the Goblin Hall, described by Sir Walter Scott in the following words :

Of lofty roof and ample size,
Beneath the castle deep it lies ;
To hew the living rock profound,
The floor to pave, the arch to round,
There never toiled a mortal arm :
It all was wrought by word and charm.

De Gifford recognised the King's summons, and hurried out as he was, to the astonishment of his retainers, who rarely, if ever, had seen him outside those enchanted walls in his wizard's dress. And if we are to believe the description given in the poem, his costume must have been decidedly startling, and quite unique in its way. His mantle was lined with foxskins; upon his head was the high-pointed cap that was the orthodox head-dress in the time of Pharaoh's magicians;

His shoes were marked with cross and spell ; he wore a pentacle, which was a piece of linen folded in a particular manner, and

supposed to have great effect with the spirits when they were in a bad humour. His girdle, which was of very thin parchment, averred by some to be dead men's skin, was inscribed with many astrological signs; and he carried a naked sword in his hand. His intercourse with the fiends had imparted a weird expression to his countenance, which was increased by prolonged fasting, and altogether he must have presented a far from prepossessing appearance.

Lord de Gifford had already divined the King's object in visiting him, and hastened to inform him that, although he himself was unable to enlighten him on the result of the forthcoming combat, he could tell him how to obtain the information he required.

It seems that, having been born on Good Friday, the King was invested with a peculiar power over the spirits, and particularly over a certain demon who had successfully resisted every spell that De Gifford's art could cast; but by plain, straightforward courage, the King was to attain more than all the wizard's charms had been able to accomplish. From his answer we may conclude that Alexander III. did not believe in ghosts, for he undertook the task before him with a light-hearted jest, and the magician, pleased by his courage, explained to him how and where the encounter with the fiend was to take place.

He was to go alone at midnight to a certain spot on the hill, about four miles from the castle. There he would find an old rampart, in the centre of which he was to halt and blow a blast upon his bugle, whereupon his unearthly foe would appear in the form of his worst enemy. This we must consider a strange oversight on the part of the fiend, who could have adopted no surer method of inspiring his opponent with double energy and courage.

In this case the disguise served as a warning, for the elf appeared in the form of Edward I., King of England, who was at the time engaged in a crusade in Palestine, and did not become Scotland's foe until some time afterwards.

Alexander was naturally surprised, but recovering himself he ran at the elf and felled both him and his horse to the ground, at the cost of a slight wound in the face. He then compelled his fallen foe to reveal the future, with which he was evidently well pleased.

But, on every anniversary of the encounter, the King's wound re-opened and pained him, which was apparently a source of satisfaction to Lord de Gifford, roused, perhaps, by jealousy and a laudable wish to keep the fiends to himself.

Marmion, fired by the host's tale, sought a meeting at midnight with the elfin knight, but fared worse than his predecessor, for the retainer who waited for him near the spot was alarmed by his headlong return, horse and rider mud-bespattered and soiled; and we learn later, that at the sound of his bugle-call from the rampart, a mounted knight rose from the ground before him. His sudden appearance so unnerved Marmion, that at the first shock of encounter he was utterly routed, and

Rolled upon the plain :

while a moonbeam falling on the face of his adversary, revealed to him the features of his direst enemy, whom he had every reason to believe had long since been dead. From this fatal encounter he augured misfortune in the future, fully realized in the field of Flodden, where he met his death.

The spot has ever since gone by the name of "Marmion's Camp," and the rampart is still to be seen on the side of the hill, about five miles from the village of Gifford.

Another curious story connected with the magician, Hugh de Gifford, is the legend of the "Coalston Pear."

On the day of his daughter's marriage, having no dowry to bestow upon her, he plucked a pear from a tree on his way to the church. This he presented to her, with the promise that as long as she preserved the pear intact, her husband's lands should remain in the family.

The pear was carefully kept by succeeding generations until about 300 years ago, when an accident occurred. While it was being shown to a lady, who was a guest in the house, she was suddenly seized with a desire to bite it, and before anyone present could prevent her, she had stuck her teeth into it. The marks are visible to this day, and that year two of the best farms had to be sold, and passed out of the family.

Quite lately it has again been injured by the undue pressure of the lid of the fine old silver box in which it is kept, and which was presented by the town of Haddington for the

express purpose of preserving the celebrated "enchanted pear." The family are still anxiously awaiting the result.

The pear, although picked 800 years ago, does not look more than two years old, and still preserves its shape, and even its stalk; it has no appearance of being fossilized, but is of a pulpy consistency. Putting magic altogether out of the question, antiquarians cannot account for its extraordinarily well-preserved condition, and confess themselves fairly baffled. Possibly Hugh de Gifford is close at hand, laughing in his sleeve whenever the matter is discussed.

We can hardly believe that an individual so enterprising and eccentric in his habits could be content to lie quiet in his grave when he had cast off this mortal coil; but, as far as tradition goes, there is no reason to believe that he "walks." It would be a fitting end to the story of his life, if we could add that he is occasionally to be met with, in his quaint wizard's dress, after dark in the Goblin Hall at Yester Castle; but veracity obliges us to confine ourselves to a piper who is supposed to issue from the ruin upon the anniversary of Marmion's meeting with the sprite, playing a *pibroch* on his bagpipes. Personally, we think that the bagpipes would be sufficient to keep the castle quite clear of any other ghosts. At all events, the piper is the only ghostly visitant that Yester can boast of, and it must be a source of satisfaction to the neighbourhood to feel comparative security from unearthly apparitions, for with a ruin so ancient and so suitable in every way as Yester Castle close at hand, it is hardly likely that the ghosts would stray anywhere else.



On the Date of the Suppression of the Letter "S" in French Orthography.

By HENRY B. WHEATLEY, F.S.A.



FRENCH writer has said that pronunciation and spelling should be twin sisters, and there can be no doubt that they ought to be so;* but the difficulty felt by the opposers of

* Voltaire says, "L'écriture est la peinture de la voix, plus elle est ressemblante, meilleure elle est."

change has been that the pronunciation differs so much in various localities that, if the words of Normandy, Picardy, etc., were spelt as they were pronounced, there would be no standard, but several distinct languages. It might, however, be answered to this objection, that if there is a difference it would be better to display it than to ignore it, and we should be gainers by the distinction that would be drawn between the languages of the northern and southern Frenchman.

It is a most difficult matter to draw any conclusions with regard to the ancient pronunciation of a language, and in the present instance we have now only sufficient material to allow us to make guesses.

There is every reason, however, to believe that many of the letters now suppressed were at one time sounded; but there are words in which the redundant letters never could have been pronounced, because they had been thrust in merely as orthographic expedients, and had nothing to do with their etymological original. With regard to those that were once sounded, they probably ceased to be heard at a very early period; but the change must have been a gradual one, and the letters were heard in certain words to a late period. In the twelfth and thirteenth centuries the *s* was unsounded in some words, but in the word *honeste* it was sounded down to the middle of the sixteenth century.

We have the authority of Etienne Pasquier (who was born in the year 1529, and died in 1615) for the assertion that the pronunciation of the *s* lingered on into the sixteenth century.

In his famous work entitled *Recherches de la France*, he distinctly states that though the *s* was not pronounced when he wrote his book, yet that he remembered in his youth the *s* being pronounced in the word *honeste*.

The following is the passage:

"Par ainsi nos anciens Gaulois empruntions comme j'ay dit, du Romain leurs paroles, et les naturalisans entre eux selon la commodité de leurs esprits et de leur langue, les redigeoient vray-semblablement par escrit comme ils les prononçoient toutesfois comme toutes chose s'amendent, voyant le monde par un jugement plus delicat tels mots proferez avec toutes leurs lettres estre un peu trop rudes au son des aureilles, on reforma au long aller cette grossiere façon de parler

en une plus douce, et au lieu d'escripre eschole, establier, temps, corps, aspre, doulx, oultre, moult, loup, avec prononciation de chaque lettre, et element, l'on s'accoustuma de dire école, etablir, tans, cors, apre, doux, outre, mout, lou: vray que tousjours est demeuré l'ancien son en ces mots especie, et esperer, mais peut estre que quelque jour viendront-ils au rang des autres, aussi bien que de nostre temps ce mot d'honneste (auquel en ma jeunesse j'ay veu prononcer la lettre de S) s'est maintierant tourné en un E, fort long."*

In this statement Pasquier is corroborated by Robert Stephens in his French Grammar published in 1558 and 1569. After stating that *s* before *t* and some other consonants was not pronounced, as maistre, he adds: "Aliquando pronuntiatur ut latine honeste honestus, domestique domesticus, scholastique scholasticus," etc. (*Gallicæ grammaticæ libellus*).

Another authority on this subject is John Palsgrave, whose valuable *Lesclarissement de la Langue Françoise* (1530) is the first general work on French grammar. He specially says that the *s* was unsounded, and curiously enough mentions the word *honeste* among his instances. Page 54: "e in these wordes teste, beste, requeste, honeste, uespre, dextre, shalbe sounded as thoug they were written teeste, beeste, uespre, deextre; aspre, gast, digne, tiltre, hoste, uostre shalbe sounded aaspre, gaast, diigne, tiiltre, hooste, uoostre," but the author gives the reason for thus lengthening the vowel by adding: "So that a great cause why the vowell is longe in pronunciation is bycause that, accordyng to the rules above declared, the consonant next folowyng hym is left unsounded."

Again at page 23: "Whan so ever iii consonantis come to gether betwene ii vowelles, of whiche the fyrist belongeth to the vowel goynge before, and the other ii to the vowel folowynge, the fyrist only shalbe left unsounded, as oultre, assouldre, tiltre, epistre, substance, shalbe sounded outre, assoudre, titre, epitre, sustance, and so of all suche other."

At page 36 is given a list of words in which the *s* is distinctly sounded "in the meane syllables." The words in this list are

* Etienne Pasquier, *Les Recherches de la France*. Ed. Paris, 1596.

not so much opposed to those in which the *s* is unsounded, as to those in which the *s* is sounded like a *z*, as *tresor*, etc. In this list the words *feste*, *vestir*, and *vestement*, are said to have the *s* unsounded. In *An Introductorie for to lerne to rede, to prounounce and to speke French trewly*, by Giles Du Gues, supposed to have been published in the year 1532, the *s* is said to be unsounded.

Page 900: "Whan *st* dothe come togider in a worde hauing a uowell before it, than the sayde *s* shall remayne unsounde, but it shall encrease the sounde of the sayde uowell, as in these, *gaster*, *taster*, *haster*, ye shall rede *gaater*, *taater*, *haater*; and *mon hoste reuenes tantos*, ye shall rede *mon hoote reuenes tantoot*: ye shall neuert heles except at those that be nyghe the latyn, as *protester*, to protest; *manifester*, to shewe; *contester*, to withstande, and such lyke, whiche must have the sayd *s*, well and parfitly sounded and pronounced, for it is not possyble to fynde a rule so generall and infallible to serue for every worde, as was said aboue in the prologue."*

From these passages in Palsgrave and Du Gues, it would appear that the suppression of the *s* in pronunciation was then complete, but we must bear in mind that these authors wrote from a knowledge of Parisian French, and that the capital and the court are always in advance of the rest of the country in the march of refinement.

Francis Wey, in his *Histoire des Révolutions du Langage en France* (1848), makes this very remark with regard to Palsgrave, for he says: "Aux yeux de Palsgrave, la langue française parfaite est celle qui se parle entre la Seine et la Loire" (p. 264).

James Howell, writing in 1650, distinctly says that the letters which were superfluous and omitted in ordinary French were sounded in Provence and Languedoc—"they be all pronounced and written" (The French Grammar—"Of Consonants," *Cotgrave's Dictionary*).

The following remarkable passage in William Thynne's dedication of his edition of *Chaucer* to Henry VIII., proves that about the beginning of the sixteenth century a great change had taken place in French pronunciation: "Next unto them [Italian and Spanish]

* The pages in the above extracts refer to the edition of Palsgrave and Du Gues, by Genin, in the series of *Documents Inédits sur l'Histoire de France* (1852).

in similitude to the Latin is the French tongue which, by diligence of people of the same, is in a few years passed so amended, as well in pronunciation as in writing, that an Englishman, by a small time exercised in that tongue, hath not lacked ground to make a grammere, or rule ordinary thereof."

Besides this question of the sounding of the *s* in the interior of words, there is that of its pronunciation at the end of words.

Palsgrave says, page 53: "In these sentences : *c'est ung terrible cas, Je ne la feray pas, Il a abatu son mast, Il lui bailla conseil, qu'il y regardast*, and in all suche lyke, in these wordes *cas*, *pas*, *mast*, and *regardast* by cause *a* cometh nexte unto the poynt, and hath a consonant or two folwyng hym, and that the accent is upon the same *a*, they shalbe sounded as we wolde do in englissh if they were written *caas*, *paas*, *maast*, *regardaast*, and so of all other."

And Du Gues, page 899: "Also in redyng frenche ye shall leave the last letter of every worde unsounde, endyng in *s*, *t* and *p*, save of the same worde wherupon ye do pause or rest, for if ye do prounounce every worde by hymselfe, that is to say, restyng upon the same, ye ought for to pronounce and sounde him thorow."

This seems to illustrate a passage in Shakespeare's *King Henry V.*, in which the French soldier appears to pronounce the *s* in the word *bras*:

Fr. Sol. Est-il impossible d'échapper la force de ton bras?

Pistol. Brass, cur!
Thou damned and luxurious mountain goat,
Offer'st me brass?

When all remembrance of the pronunciation of the redundant letters had faded away, reformers arose to propose their abolition. The list of these reformers* is a long and interesting one, and contains the names of most of the greatest of French authors: Ronsard, Corneille, Racine, Bossuet, Fénelon, Montaigne and Voltaire, all wished their language to be spelt more in accordance with common-sense than it was. An absurd system could not well stand against the united blows of such men as these, and the spelling was therefore reformed, although there is still great room for improvement.

* Mons. Didot has given a full and interesting account of the reformers in his *Observations sur l'Orthographe Française*, published in 1867.

One of the first proposers of change was Jacques Dubois, better known as Sylvius, in 1531. In 1545 he was followed by Louis Meigret, who founded a school of neographers who were called after him *Meigreitistes*. Robert Poisson, who proposed sundry changes in 1609, mentions the names of some of his predecessors :

Vantez tant que voudrez de Ronsard les égris,
De Ranus, Peletier, Baïf, Robert Etiene,
Leur réformassion d'ortografe ansiene,
Poisson en a l'onneur le profit ei le pres
Appointons noise.

The various schemes of the orthographic reformers of the sixteenth century drew public attention to the anomalies of the existing system, and some of the changes they proposed took effect in the following century.

Much honour is due to the distinguished literary coterie, who met at the famous Hôtel de Rambouillet, as to it may be traced the popularization of theories before only held by some of the learned. M. Wey says of these "Précieuses": "C'est ainsi que trois jeunes femmes inconnues, Roxalie, Silénie et Didamie, ont déraciné l'antique orthographe de la France, et ont porté, en se jouant, un coup mortel à un vieil usage contre lequel s'étaient brisés les plus habiles docteurs, et les poëtes populaires du siècle de François I^e. Nous suivons docilement, depuis plus d'un siècle, les lois de Madame Le Roy, de Mademoiselle de Saint-Maurice, et de Mademoiselle de La Durandière."*

One of the chief causes, however, of the reform that took place in the seventeenth century was the establishment of the French Academy. This famous institution sprang from a society of men of letters at Paris, who began to meet once a week on Mondays about the year 1629. Cardinal Richelieu, on hearing of these meetings, suggested the incorporation of the society, greatly against the wishes of the members. They afterwards consented, and were established by letters patent in 1635. The aim of the Academy was the purification and improvement of the French language: "De porter la langue que nous parlons à sa dernière perfection et de

nous tracer un chemin pour parvenir à la plus haute éloquence."*

The question of orthography naturally came before the Academy, and it was supposed that they would take its improvement in hand. M. Didot mentions a MS. in the Bibliothèque Impériale entitled "Resolutions de l'Académie Françoise touchant l'Orthographe."

In the following satirical lines the members of the Academy are styled Superintendents of Orthography :

Requête présentée par les Dictionnaires à Messieurs de l'Académie pour la Réformation de la langue Françoise.

A Nosseigneurs Académiques,
Nosseigneurs les Hypercritiques,
Souverains arbitres des mots,
Doctes faiseurs d'avant-propos,
Cardinal-historiographes,
Surintendants des orthographies,
Raffineurs de locutions,
Entrepreneurs de versions,
Peseurs de brèves et de longues,
De voyelles et de diphthongues.
* * * * *

Enfin je ne sais quels auteurs
Auroient prescrit aux correcteurs
Une impertinente orthographe,
Leur faisant mettre *paragraphe*,
Filosofie, ôtre, le tans,
L'iver, l'otonne, le printans,
Place réale, le réome,
Saint Ogustin, et Saint Gérôme,
Et retranchant mal à propos
L's de la plupart des mots,
Comme d'état, d'bler, de nôtre,
D'ôtre, d'étonnement, d'apôtre,
Dont son usage est mal traité,
Autant ou plus qu'il fut du Z,
Lorsque de toutes leurs querelles
Elle fit juge les voyelles,
Si bien que les petits grimauts
Ne rencontrant point tous ces mots
Suivant notre ordre alphabétique,
Qui retiennent l'orthographe antique,
Entrent aussitôt en courroux,
Et lors nous frappent à grand coups,
Suffletant le dictionnaire
Aussi bien que le Despautaire.†

James Howell took great interest in the proposed changes, and distinctly attributes them to the Academy. The following is from his address "To the Intelligent Reader" in his *Familiar Letters*:

"The new Academy of wits, call'd

* Olivet, *Histoire de l'Académie Françoise*, 1730, p. 51.

† Pellisson and D'Olivet, *Hist. de l'Acad. Française*, par Livet, 1858, tome i., pp. 477-488.

* *Histoire des Révolutions du Langage en France*, 1848, p. 508.

l'Académie de beaux esprits, which the late Cardinall de Richelieu founded in Paris, is now in hand to reform the French language in this particular, and to weed it of all superfluous letters, which makes the Toung differ so much from the Pen, that they have expos'd themselves to this contumelious proverb, 'The Frenchman doth neither pronounce as he writes, nor speaks as he thinks, nor sings as he pricks.'

Again, in the "Advertisement" to *Θηρολογια, The Parley of Beasts or Morphandra*, 1660 :

"The French do labor daily to reform this, and to bring both writing and pronunciation to be consonant, by retrenching the superfluous letters; for whereas they were used to write *Les epistres que les apostres ont escrit*, they now write as they pronounce : *Les epitres que les apotres ont ecrit.*"

The following is from Howell's edition of *Cotgrave's Dictionary*, 1650 :

"Observe that one of the main tasks of the late Academy of Wits in Paris is to retrench the superfluous letters, whereof the French language is fuller than any other; as will appear in this following example :

"L'Apostre Saint Paul en ses epistres nous advertit, que le droit chemin pour parfaictement cunoistre nostre Souverain Seigneur est de nous accoustumer a bien faire, et d'escouter la Tres-sainte Escriture, qui nous rend tesmoignage de luy, et de frequenter l'Eglise son espouse, la quelle nous ferá paroistre les esmerveillables effects de l'amour qu'il nous monstre chasque moment : Elle nous esclairira aussy en la cunoissance de nostre Redempteur et nous ferá desdaigner le monde avec un vray desgoust, et mespriser nous mesmes et les esbats de ceste vie, avec un gran desplaisir et mescontentement et nous ferá apprester pour le temps de nostre trespasses, en nous remplissant de doux soupirs. Les esprits subtils et desliez qui ayment plutost l'escole de la nature peut estre ne se soucieront gueres de cest' avis, qui touche l'estat de leur ames auquel il n'y à rien d'esgal, etc."

"According to the refined French you write thus :

"L'Apostre Saint Paul en ses epitres nous avertit que le droit chemin pour parfaictement conoitre notre Souverain Seigneur est de nous

accoustumer a bien faire, et d'escouter la tresainte Escriture qui nous rend temoignage de luy et de frequenter l'egleise son espouse, la quelle nous ferá paroistre les emerveillables effets de l'amour qu'il nous montre chaque moment ; elle nous esclairira aussy en la connoissance de notre Redempteur, et nous ferá dedaigner le monde avec un vray degoust et mespriser nous mesmes et les esbats de cette vie avec un gran desplaisir et mescontentement, nous faysant apprester pour le tems de notre trespasses en nous remplissant de doux soupirs. Les esprits subtils et desliez qui ayment plutot l'escole de la nature, peut estre ne se soucieront gueres de cet' avis, qui touche l'estat de leur ames, auquel il n'y à rien d'egal, etc.

"In the second French example you may observe, by collating it with the first, sundry consonants cut off, which the late refiners of the French language do allow of; as also any other letter that is us'd to be written and not pronounc'd, especially if the word be derived from the Latin, may be omitted, according to the rules of modern orthography."*

It appears, however, that although the Academy discussed the question, and that several of their most distinguished members were in favour of reform, they decided as a body in favour of retaining the superfluous letters, and issued their *Dictionary* with the old spelling in 1694, when the new had become established. M. Chapelain at the first establishment of the Academy handed in a projected plan for the *Dictionary*, which was approved by the Academy. In this he says : "Qu'on se tiendroit à l'orthographe reçue pour ne pas troubler la lecture commune et n'empêcher pas que les livres déjà imprimés ne fissent leus avec facilité; qu'on travailloir toutant a oster toutes les superfluitez qui pourroient estre retranchées sans conséquence."†

In the preface to the first edition of the *Dictionary* (1694), the writer, although making excuses for the retention of the old spelling, allows that usage must be the master of orthography. Therefore, as the Academy had no wish to fly in the face of custom,

* *Cotgrave's French-English Dictionary*, by J. Howell, fol., London, 1650.

† Pellisson, *Relation contenant l'Histoire de l'Academie Françoise*, 2^e édition, Paris, 1671, p. 100. Pellisson's History was translated into English, and published in 1657.

they left out the *b* in *devoir*, *fevrier*, etc. At the same time, if all unpronounced letters were retrenched, the final *r* of *aimer*, etc., would have to be suppressed, and they were not prepared to propose that. In the following extract use is made of the etymological argument, but by omitting the *b* in *devoir*, etc., the compilers of the dictionary themselves destroyed the force of their argument : "L'Académie s'est attachée à l'ancienne orthographe receue parmi tous les gens de lettres, parce qu'elle ayde à faire connoistre l'origine des mots. C'est pourquoi elle a creu ne devoir pas autoriser le retranchement que des particuliers, et principalement les imprimeurs ont fait de quelques lettres, à la places desquelles ils ont introduit certaines figures qu'ils ont inventées, parce que ce retranchement oste tous les vestiges de l'analogie, et des rapports qui sont entre les mots qui viennent du Latin ou de quelque autre langue. Ainsi elle a écrit les mots *corps*, *temps*, avec un *P* et les mots *teste*, *honneste*, avec une *S* pour faire voir qu'ils viennent du Latin *tempus*, *corpus*, *testa*, *honestus*. Et si un mesme mot se trouve écrit dans le Dictionnaire de deux manières différentes, celle dont il sera écrit en lettres capitales au commencement de l'article est la seule que l'Académie approuve."

The difficulty of retaining an antiquated spelling is seen in the above, for the printer uses *crit* in the very passage which states that the *s* is not dropped in such words. In the second edition of the *Dictionary* (1719), the same rule is adhered to ; but the compilers evidently felt themselves to be in a false position, for they say, in the preface, that though the old system was founded on reason, usage is stronger than reason in language, and therefore too great efforts ought not to be made to retain the old spelling :

"Quant à l'orthographe, l'Académie dans cette nouvelle édition, comme dans la précédente, a suivi en beaucoup de mots l'ancienne manière d'écrire, mais sans prendre aucun parti dans la dispute qui dure depuis si long-temps sur cette matière."

The Abbé d'Olivet makes the following remarks on the conduct of the Academy in this matter :

"J'allois oublier un autre reproche qu'on lui fait encore : c'est d'avoir jusqu'à présent

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retenu l'ancienne manière d'écrire, qui marque l'analogie et l'etymologie des mots ; au lieu de se conformer à la nouvelle, qui supprime ou remplace par des accens la pluspart des lettres inutiles pour la prononciation. Ce que j'ai donc à dire là-dessus, c'est qu'à l'égard de l'orthographe, comme en tout ce qui concerne la langue, jamais l'Académie ne prétendit rien innover, rien affecter. Sa loi dès son établissement, fut de s'en tenir à l'orthographe reçue, pour ne pas troubler la lecture commune, et n'empêcher pas que les livres déjà imprimés ne fissent lus avec facilité. Dès-lors il fut résolu, qu'on travailleroit pourtant à ôter toutes les superfluités qui pourroient être retranchées sans conséquence. Et c'est aussi ce qu'elle a voulu faire insensiblement mais le Public est allé plus vite, et plus loin qu'elle. Peut-être est-il allé trop loin et trop vite. Quoiqu'il en soit, elle dit très-bien, que 'comme il ne faut point se presser de rejeter l'ancienne orthographe, on ne doit pas non plus faire de trop grands efforts pour la retenir. Ce qui signifie que, toujours asservie à l'usage, elle a respecté l'ancien, tant que ça été celui de nos écrivains les plus célèbres ; mais qu'elle est disposée néanmoins à subir la loi du nouveau lorsqu'il aura entièrement pris le dessus.'"

Before the third edition was published, it was decided at last by the Academicians that they must acknowledge themselves to be beaten, and adopt the new spelling, as will be seen from the following extracts from D'Olivet's private letters :

"A propos de l'Académie, il y a six mois que l'on délibère sur l'ortographe ; car la volonté de la compagnie est de renoncer dans la nouvelle édition de son Dictionnaire à l'orthographe suivie dans les éditions précédentes ; mais le moyen de parvenir à quelque espèce d'uniformité ? nos délibérations depuis six mois n'ont servi qu'à faire voir qu'il étoit impossible que rien systématique partît d'une compagnie" (Jan. 1, 1736).

"Coignard a depuis six semaines la lettre A, mais ce qui fait qu'il n'a pas encore commencé à imprimer, c'est qu'il n'avoit pas pris la précaution de faire fondre des E accentués, et il en faudra beaucoup, parce qu'en beaucoup de mots nous avons supprimé les S de

* D'Olivet, *Histoire de l'Académie Françoise*, Paris, 1730, p. 60.

l'ancienne orthographe, comme dans despescher que nous allons écrire dépêcher, tête, mâle, etc., etc., sans adopter aucune des nouveautés viceuses des Abbés de Dangeau et de Saint-Pierre" (Avril 8, 1736).*

In the fourth edition the superfluous letters *b*, *d*, *h* and *s* are all suppressed, and when the *s* represented a lengthened syllable a circumflex is used. The editors allow in the preface that they must follow the public in language, and not fight against public opinion :

"L'Académie s'est donc vue constrainte à faire à son orthographe plusieurs changemens qu'elle n'avoit point jugé à propos d'adopter, lorsqu'elle donna l'édition précédente. Il n'y a guère moins d'inconveniens dans la pratique, à retenir obstinément l'ancienne orthographe, qu'à l'abandonner légèrement pour suivre de nouvelles manières d'écrire, qui ne font que commencer a s'introduire."

Great changes in the spelling of a language, though they may ultimately be accomplished, take many years before they are established, and it requires a generation to die out before they meet with general acceptance. The time of the transition in the present case may be put at thirty years—that is, from 1660 to 1690. In 1660 the principle was gaining ground, and in 1690 the practice was all but universal. The real battle-ground of the final struggle might be reduced to ten years, from 1670 to 1680.

I have examined a number of French books with dates varying from 1600 to 1700, taken at hazard, and I find that in books before 1665 only occasionally will a word be written without the *s*. Certainly Howell says in 1650 (French Grammar prefixed to *Cotgrave's Dictionary*) : "Heretofore in the French Orthography ther wer more letters written then now ther are, and I believe the reason was to shew the originall and etymology of their language from the latin, but now they begin to omit them more and more as superfluous." At this time there seemed some little uncertainty as to which words to curtail. Cotgrave in 1611, though he puts his words under *esbahir*, *escole*, etc., has references from *ébahir*, *école*; and moreover he has *écamoter*, a word in which the *s* is still written

* *Lettres Inédites de l'Abbé d'Olivet. Histoire de l'Académie*, 1858, ii., 430, 433.

and pronounced. In Howell's specimen passage given before, he takes off both too much and too little, for he spells *tresainte*, *redempteur*, *espris*, *sutils*, and *espouse*, *escriture*. The authors, or perhaps we should say printers, who systematically altered the spelling before 1670, were in advance of the public; but those who after 1680 retained the old orthography were behind the general practice.



The Crosses of Nottinghamshire, Past and Present.

BY A. STAPLETON.

PART III.

HUNDRED OF BASSETLAW.

EAST AND WEST RETFORD.—At East Retford are the remains, or base, of what once probably formed a rude cross of early workmanship, but now known as the Broad Stone, which at a short distance has the appearance of an antique font. Another stone of a similar form is built into the churchyard-wall at West Retford—these towns being separated merely by the little river Idle. Perhaps the best manner of describing these supposed crosses will be to append the description of Mr. John S. Piercy, as given in his *History of Retford*, a handy and well-written little work, published in 1828, but now rarely met with, and in which is also a woodcut of the Broad Stone:

"Nearly in the centre of the square stands the Broad Stone, around which the market for the sale of corn is held. It is generally supposed (and oral tradition is the only evidence we possess respecting it) that this stone formerly stood on an eminence to the south-east of the town, that place being known in ancient times by the name of 'Est-croc-sic,' but now by that of 'Domine Cross.' In all probability this stone was once the point of attraction around which our forefathers used to assemble for the purpose of celebrating public worship; since then, however, it has been differently appropriated,

and during the time the plague raged so dreadfully in this neighbourhood, the markets were held near the spot, in order that the country people might not be deterred, through fear of taking the infection, from bringing in their different wares for the use of the public. Another stone of exactly the same form and dimensions is to be observed in the churchyard-wall at West Retford, which formerly occupied a place on an elevated piece of ground near the road leading to Barnby Moor, in West Retford field; here too, it is probable, a market was held, under circumstances similar to those above narrated. At what period the Broad Stone was removed from 'Domine Cross' is unknown; but to the extent of the recollection of the oldest inhabitant, it had stood in the market-place until the year 1818, when it was removed, by order of the bailiffs, to its present station. It is now in an inverted position, having a square hole on the under side, similar to that at West Retford."

The above description is as correct and appropriate to-day as when written. It is remarkable that these stones of identical form, and no doubt originally intended for the same purpose, should have survived to the present day, after having stood, probably for centuries, in the open fields, and in a district scoured repeatedly by civil war. The square hole in each no doubt formerly contained the base of an antique shaft, long since destroyed.

Worksop.—At the bottom of Potter Street, opposite the old abbey gateway, stands the shaft of what is supposed to be a twelfth-century cross, elevated on a conical series of eight steps; being most likely one of the "cruces quas Willielmus de Lovetot pate meus et Ricardus de Lovetot, avus meus, propriis manibus exererunt."* The fact that they were erected personally, and not merely by the orders of these two noblemen (being lords of the manor), is singular, and the motive impelling them thereto inexplicable—unless the act was intended as one of re-

* Richard de Lovetot confirmed the gift of land made by his father (33 Edw. I.) to the Priory of Worksop, part of which consisted of "the meadow of land by the bound of Kilton, from the water unto the way under the gallows, towards the south, and by the crosses, which he himself, and William his son, erected with their own hands, unto the moor."

membrance or humility. On this and other accounts this cross is of more than ordinary interest, for it was here that the fair and market, granted by Edward I. in the twenty-fourth year of his reign to one of the De Furnivals, was anciently held, being convenient for the monks, who, on several accounts, were very fond of fairs. The boundaries of estates frequently in this district were indicated by crosses, and in the Chronicles of Welbeck Abbey one of these is expressly mentioned at Worksop as a landmark; and as further evidence that it was used as a boundary-cross, it is to be noted that it was one of the division-points of the Clumber Fee, that of our kings, and those of the lords of Worksop and Tickhill. During the reign of Elizabeth, the iconoclasts, not confining their rage to images, altars, and shrines, exerted themselves against crosses, which were generally demolished, except the steps, and perhaps a portion of the shaft, which, whether not broken down, or afterwards re-erected, became in this instance the more harmless supporter of a sun-dial. Here, likewise, proclamations concerning the town or the kingdom used to be made; and from these steps, during the Protectorate, banns of marriage were proclaimed by the common crier. That the town-cross of Worksop has been so distinguished we have express evidence.*

Griagley on the Hill.—Near the church, and belonging to the vicar, is an ancient cross, which appears to have been put to somewhat different uses from the ordinary village cross, though the statements as to its origin are somewhat plural. A curious niche is to be observed on the eastern side of the column, and one account says the cross was erected "for reverence," and place of offerings, and vicar's quarterly fair tithes before the Reformation. There is also a tradition to the effect that it was built in commemoration of one of the Edwards having passed through the village on his way to Lincoln. Otherwise, there is some probability that it was used as a market-cross, for there was a grant of market and fair to the place in 1355. It was repaired about 1820,

* In the Register, 1656, it is stated that the marriage of one couple was "according to the Act, published at Worksop Market Old Cross."

when it narrowly escaped the desecrating hands of some of the parishioners, who wanted to use its materials for the reparation of the roads. The vicar kindly sent me the following particulars:

"I enclose you, as you request, a sketch of the old cross here and its present dimensions, with niche to the east. It is impossible to give its date, but the old church near it is partly Norman and partly Transitional period. The cross is likely to be as old as any part of the church—certainly before either of the iconoclast periods. As to its uses, all that can be now known is probably what is considered as likely elsewhere—a place for occasional worship, or the levying priest's standing-place, to receive dues and fees on superstitious ideas of bargains on fair and market days."

The sketch alluded to, though a rough one, is very useful as showing the general form and dimensions—the latter being marked on it, which is certainly the most lucid and satisfactory way of giving them. The cross consists of five steps (or four and a plinth) and a shaft; the latter not being perfect, a part having been broken off the top. Owing to the roughness of the drawing, the exact shape of either the shaft or the steps is indistinguishable. They both appear circular, but this form I have never met with in the shaft of an old cross, and circular steps seldom occur—the latter being almost invariably of an angular form, or something from a square to an octagon. The base is shown to be 12 feet in width at the bottom, and 4½ feet in height. The shaft is 8 feet in height, and apparently about 1 foot in thickness, being uniform throughout. The height of the shaft is also divided into stages, viz., from the base to the commencement of the niche, 2½ feet; height of the niche, 1 foot; from the top of the niche to the top of the shaft, 4½ feet. The top of the structure is thus 12½ feet from the ground.

Warsop.—In 1329 John Nunnes, of London, acquired possession of the manor of Warsop, and claimed a right of holding a market every Tuesday; and in 1379 King Richard II. granted a confirmation of the right to hold a market and fair. These are the first allusions to the market I have met with, but there is reason to believe that it

dated from an earlier period. There is known to have existed a fine old market-cross, which stood for centuries. It is alluded to as a boundary-cross in the *Perambulation of 1539* in these words: "From thence by the water of Mayden* unto the town of Warsop, and so through the middle of the town of Warsop up unto the cross there,"† etc. The market at Warsop was discontinued about the troublous times of the Civil War, but the cross stood for many years after, and is several times mentioned in a little book entitled *Warsop Parish Registers*, by R. J. King, the curate—the last time being about the close of the last century; yet recent as it is, there seems to be no record either of the form of the cross, the site on which it stood, or the date of demolition. I wrote to the author of the above work for any information it might be in his power to afford, and after some delay received the following reply:

"I have been away from home for the last three weeks, or I should have written sooner to say that unfortunately we have no remains of the old Warsop Parish Cross, and only tradition to prove that it ever existed."

Walkeringham.—The remains of a cross exist a short distance from the church, consisting of a base of three or four steps, surmounted by what is left of the shaft. Five years since it was in such a neglected and ruinous condition that by some one's order it was taken down, and the stones carted away to be used for agricultural purposes. But the late vicar, hearing opportunely of this barbarism, at his own cost caused the stones to be brought back and re-erected, but not on the same site. Surely no cross ever had such a hairbreadth escape from being swept out of existence. Since the superstitious notions respecting them have passed away, crosses have never been in favour with the ignorant commonalty. Numerous fine specimens have been wantonly destroyed by

* This river, the Mayden, so-called from the earliest times, forms another addition to the list of Maiden place-names, this time indisputably as a boundary. The river is now known as the Meden, which, however, is obviously but a slight corruption of the old name. It represented the forest boundary for about six miles.

† There is another Sherwood Forest boundary-cross at Pleasley, Derbyshire, just without the bounds of this county.

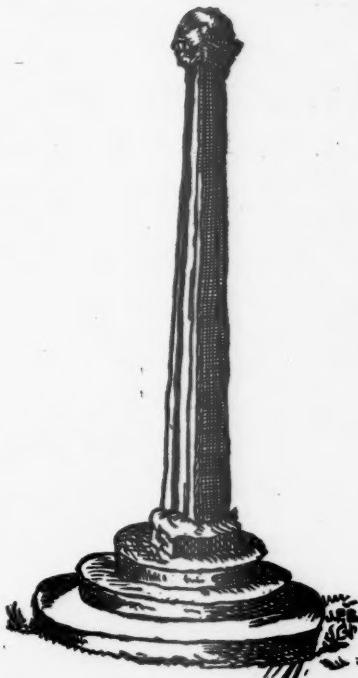
them, and many existing ones have had narrow escapes ; but where can we find another instance of the actual demolition and removal of one, and at the same time of its subsequent escape ? Truly it savours somewhat of the romantic.

Hodsock.—Near Hodsock Park, and close by the mansion, about fifty years ago, a very handsome processional cross was dug up, which was presented to the museum at Oscot College. No particulars are forthcoming.

Willoughby-on-the-Wolds.—The cross at this village, noticed last month, now calls for further attention. Our Nottingham librarian, J. P. Briscoe, F.R.H.S., had an engraving of this cross executed (from that given by Stukeley), which, though he has yet had no opportunity of using it, with his usual courtesy he placed at my disposal, and thus it is here presented to the readers of this magazine. The same gentleman also gave me his manuscript notes concerning it, which I append, as they cannot fail to interest, emanating as they do from the pen of one who has written and edited more works on the local history of this district than any other individual. It will be noted that my former statement, with regard to the year 1840 being the date of the destruction of the cross (which I gave on the authority of White's *Nottinghamshire*), is here upset. Here are Mr. Briscoe's notes with the exception of the first part, which consists of Laird's account, already given :

" This cross, we may add, stood upon, or had at its base, four stone steps, the three bottom being circular and the top step square. It was surmounted by a cap of uncertain form. This cross was drawn by the eminent antiquary Stukeley, who had it engraved for his *Itinerarium Curiosum* (2nd. ed., 1776, vol. i., pl. ii.), from which our drawing was made. One authority says the date when the cross was demolished was about the year 1825 ; but in a communication to me dated May 20th, 1884, the Vicar of Wysall, the Rev. W. J. Fertel, in answer to some inquiries wrote : ' I have made inquiries respecting Willoughby Cross. I think about 1819 or 1820 would be the date when it was destroyed. An old man, aged eighty-four, who came to Willoughby in 1813, is pretty sure that it was about six years afterwards ; and his wife

aged eighty-one, is under the same impression.' With my letter, I forwarded a sketch of the cross to Mr. Fertel. Respecting this, that gentleman continues : ' The old man thinks



that the pedestal was higher than it appears in the drawing, and that there were about seven steps.' Mr. Fertel adds : ' I cannot learn of any remains of it in existence except the top of the pedestal, which lies on the road-side a few yards from where the cross stood.—J. P. B.'

To complete this account, I here append the rough account of Stukeley, the foundation of all later statements :

" When arrived over-against Willoughby on the wold, on the right, Upper and Nether Broughton on the left, you find a tumulus on Willoughby side of the road, famous among the country people ; it is called Cross hill ; upon this they have an anniversary festival . . . In Willoughby town is a handsome cross

of one stone, five yards long ; in the time of the reforming rebellion, the soldiers had tied ropes about it to pull it down ; but the vicar persuaded them to commute for some strong beer, having made an harangue to show the innocence thereof."



Sixteenth-Century Travelling.

Polonius. Yet here, Laertes ! aboard, aboard, for shame !

The wind sits in the shoulder of your sail.
And you are staid for. There ; my blessing with thee !

And these few precepts in thy memory
See thou character.—*Hamlet*, i, sc. iii.

LIZABETH'S reign saw the introduction of the custom of travelling on the Continent for the purpose of gaining refinement and knowledge. Of the many noblemen who set out on their travels at this time was Francis, second Earl of Bedford. The travels of this young nobleman caused the publication of a curious book, intended as a guide for him and other travellers. A few notes from this crude pioneer of Baedeker, printed and published in London, in 1592, will give us some information on the countries of Europe, as they appeared to a traveller of that time.

It opens with a general note upon travelling : "I heare say (noble yoong Earle) that you are determined to trauell, and surely I am not a little glad thereof. For this braue and heroycall disposition I know is onely in noble and vertuous natures. Base and badder minds indeed content their poore thoughts with their owne countries knowledge, and being glued to their home, they carrie (with the sluggishhe and slow-footed snaile) their houses on theyr backs, to whom the Germaine prouerbe agreeth well : that they knowe the sounde of no other bels but their owne ; but contrarie the haught and heauenlie-spirited men (men indeed) are neuer well but when they imitate the heuens which are in perpetuall motion ; yea, God himself, which gouernes the heauens, to whose nature nothing is more repugnant than at any time to be idle or ill occupied."

On the question of refinement in manners, some curious notes are given, some of which

are not unapropos even now : "The third effect and vertue of trauel, which consistes in learning to refine our maners and to attaine to faire conditions and behauour towards all kinde and conditions of men. In my direction of maner, I would haue you marke two things, that you auoid the ile (*sic*) and learne the good. It is out of question that in trauell you shall see sundrie and strange maners, with varietie, elegancie, neat and goodly behauour ; but here we must take heed least hand ouer head and without choise wee imitate all fashions and frame our selves to al fancies, rather like toying apes than sober men. Italie (I graunt) and France will teach vs fine and faire cariage and of our body good and discreet deliuerie of our minde, ciuill and modest behauour to others ; but yet as we are to like, so wee are not straight to affect euerie countrey fashion : wee are to use them seasonably and soberly and modestly, not with thrasonicall and presumptuous ostentation (wherein most trauailers fowly overshot themselves by passing the bondes of decencie and mediocritie). For as many countreies as they haue trauailed, so many gestures shall you see them use, as plaiers on the stage, which perhaps in one house chaunge themselves into a dozen kindes of gestures. This mimickall and miserable affecting (as in all things els it is grosse and absurd), so in the carriage of the body it is most vile, base, and of all least beseeming a noble personage ; wherefore eschewe it (good my lord), and especially my Lord auoid by all meanes the vicious carriage (as I may so say) of the mind, the rather because the vices of the minde are common abroad and obuious eueriewhere, and other nations haue greater facilitie to hide their vices then we Englishmen, so that their outward shew is cōmonly good and honest, but inwardly there lurkes all kinde of vice and vicious affections."

A passage pointing out the faults of the various nations is very amusing, and shows that the author was an observant traveller himself :

"Wherefore, sweete Earle, haue diligent care in this behalfe, least you fall into the naturall faults of those nations where you trauell. For euen as every man, so euerie nation hath his proper vice, as, for example, the Frenche man is light and inconstante in speech and behauour, the Italian hypocriti-

call, luxurious and (which is worst of all illes) jelous. The Spaniard is imperious, proude, disdainful, pretending more than euer hee intendeth to doo. The Germaine and Netherlander ambitious, gluttons, drunkardes and alwaies male-contents." Then he goes in a little later, "Giu me leaue to say a worde more of Italie and Venice it selfe (whereto your Lordship is intended). . . . Wherefore I haue thought good to set you downe the nature and vices both of the men and the women: with the meanes how to use and demeane yourselfe towards them for your owne safetie and defence, and yet without grudge or offence to them. The men as are inueigling underminers and deep dissemlers, whoe, when they haue pried into your nature and are priuy to your secrets, wil straight change their coppie, and shew themiselves in their coulors: against these dissemlers I know no other, or at least no better buckler than to dissemble also your selfe. . . . So may I be saued, as I heere feare for your safetie, unless God and good counsel doo helpe you, so great dread haue I of your yoong and slipperie age, and so ouer-sure of the alluring and intrapping natures of the Venetian and Italian curtesanes: yet, Noble Lord, take of me these two precepts, that you refraine your eyes and your eares."

The route is set out with some precision and assertion to knowledge: "In my judgements (and I haue seen them all), you were best to traueil first to Naples, which is so pleasantly seated: next to the faire citie of Seane: after that to Florence, the verie flower (as I may say) of all fine cities. Bononia and Pauia, the two nurses of sciences and liberall arts may be visited in the way, where, when you haue staied a while, you shall at length come to your intended iornies end, Venice, the Ladie of the sea, that faire, great, riche, and fortunate citie. . . . In your retурne home, if you turne aside to that huge and populous the citie of Millaine, your time shall not be ill spent, nor your labor lost."

And finally, we have the following couplet as "Lenuoye":

Many countries it is good to see,
So that we keepe our honestie.

JAMES F. ALLAN.

Some Account of Three Northumbrian Strongholds.

WARKWORTH.

READERS of Shakespeare will not fail to remember that in his historical play of *Henry IV.*, Part I., mention is made of Warkworth Castle. Henry Percy, surnamed Hotspur, son of the Earl of Northumberland, enters in the third scene of the second act reading a letter, and afterwards dallies with his wife's inquiries, refusing to disclose the purport of his intended departure from the feudal castle. In the second part of the play, the opening scene of the first act, as well as the third scene of the second act, takes place at Warkworth. There is a kind of prologue called an "Induction to the Second Part." Rumour, painted full of tongues, enters, discourses on the attributes of his profession, and also on the news of the day. Standing in front of Warkworth, he says:

And this worm-eaten hold of ragged stone,
Where Hotspur's father, old Northumberland,
Lies crafty sick.

The castle is now almost entirely ruinous, only a small portion being habitable. It is built on a rock, and is oblong in shape. The keep is raised on an artificial mount; from it springs a high watch-tower, which may be seen from a great distance both by land and sea. The castle and moat consisted of over five acres. The walls on three sides are supplied with towers. The great gate is fortified. The figure of a lion and three coats of arms still remain on one of the walls. Leland says in his *Itinerary* that "Warkworth Castell stondythe on the south side of Coquet water; it is well maynteyned and is large. It stondithe on a highe hill." Grose gives a copy of a survey taken in 1567,* in which are many copious particulars. Amongst other parts of the edifice we learn that "turning north from the south-west corner in that courtayn stretchinge to another little towre called the postern towre, ys th' old hall, which was verie fare, and now by reason yt was in decay, ys unroofed, and the timbre

* This was done by G. Clarkson, one of the auditors to the then Earl of Northumberland.

taken downe, lyinge in the said castell. In the same square a buttrye, pantrye and kitchinge, which are now also in utter decay." The old hall here alluded to is evidently the baronial hall, twenty feet high. The dungeon, where prisoners were let down and drawn up by cords, is a special feature of this stronghold. A warrant was issued to Mr. Whitehead,* dated 24th June, 1608, to take down the lead that lieth upon the ruinous towers and places of Warkworth. In 1610 the old timber of the buildings in the outer court was sold. From the following letter, dated Newcastle, 27th April, 1672, addressed to "My lovinge friend, William Milbourne, at his house at Birlinge," we shall see how Warkworth became a ruin :

"WILLIAM MILBOURNE,

" Being to take downe the materialls of Warkworth Castle, which are given me by the Countess of Northumberland to build a house at Cheuton, I do desire you to speake to all her ladishipps tenants in Warkeworth, Birlinge, Buston, Acklington, Shilbottle, Lesbury, Longhaughton, and Bilton, that they will assist me with their draughts, as soone as conveniently they can, to remove the lead and timber which shall be taken downe, and such other materials as shall be fitt to be removed, and bring it to Cheuton, which will be an obligation to theire and youre friend,

" JO CLARKE.

"In regard they are like to be out three days 'ere they get home, I shall be content to allowe every mayne half a crowne, and let me know who refuse."

The barony and Castle of Warkworth belonged to Roger FitzRichard, who held it by grant from Henry II. He married Eleanor, one of the daughters of Henry de Essex, Baron of Clavering and Raleigh. A descendant named John took the surname of Clavering in the reign of Edward III. The reversion and fee of Warkworth having been made over to the Crown by John de Clavering, in consequence of his having received lands in the Eastern counties, and having no issue, Edward III. gave them to Henry de Percie. In the reign of Richard II.,

* He was steward to the Earl of Northumberland.

Henry became the first Earl of Northumberland. He was accused of having surrendered Berwick to the Scots, and his estates, including Warkworth, were confiscated ; but his innocence being proved, every honour and all his properties were restored to him. It was a time of disaster and violence. In the third Parliament of Richard, it is recorded that "the counties of Northumberland and Westmoreland require consideration of a Warden and Garrison to lie on their Marches; and that it may be commanded to all such as have Castles, Forts, or Lands, as well within those Counties as upon all the Sea Coasts, that they dwell upon the same."* In the first year of Henry IV.'s reign, the Earl of Northumberland was the chief of a party of peers and commoners, who went to the Tower of London to remind the deposed King Richard of his promise to renounce and give up the crowns of England and France.† Afterwards, at the commencement of the fifteenth century, Percy rebelled ; but was ultimately pardoned. His name appears in the Rolls of Parliament throughout the reigns of Richard II. and part of Henry IV. ; but is not found therein after the sixth assembling of Parliament in the latter King's reign.‡ Many mutations of fortune befell the Percies. Warkworth was alienated from them, but the attainder reverted and all the hereditaments restored by King Edward IV.§ A Mr. John Uvedale appears in 1547 to be much in and about at Warkworth. He writes on the 14th of December in that year to the Lord Protector and Council, reporting having sent Lord Wharton £200, and afterwards £500, and appointed £500 more to be delivered by his servant at Warkworth Castle for wages. On the 8th of April, 1548, John Brende acquaints the Lord President that mariners have been mustered by the Lord-Lieutenant, and paid by Mr. Uvedale. The Earl of Northumberland reports to Queen Mary, on the 30th of April, the many raids and incursions of the borderers ; but that her troops had the advantage over them. He likewise informs her, dating from Warkworth, that he has,

* Cotton's *Records*, Anno tertio, R. 2.

† Cotton's *Records*, Anno primo, H. 4.

‡ It was at this time the Earl lay "crafty sick" at Warkworth.

§ Cotton's *Records*, Anno duodecimo, E. 4.

agreeably to command, levied a thousand men to go to Berwick.*

In the reign of Elizabeth, a proclamation is made concerning this castle by the Deputy-Lieutenant of Berwick and Sir John Foster, respecting the disobedience of the Earls of Northumberland and Westmoreland to her Majesty. Large bodies of troops are put into Warkworth and Alnwick to keep these castles forcibly against her Majesty's peace and laws. Writing in April, 1572, Henry, Lord Hunsdon, says he knows not what authority is committed to Sir John Foster over the Earl of Northumberland's lands and houses. He exclaims how pitiable it is to see how Warkworth and Alnwick are spoiled by him, and that he means utterly to deface both. At one time in Elizabeth's reign, Thomas, Earl of Sussex, seems to be residing at Warkworth, for he requests by letter to Sir William Cecil, dated September 18th, 1570, from Warkworth Castle, that he may be the means of obtaining the Queen's forgiveness of one John Gowen.†

Wark Castle, alluded to by Bishop Percy in his legend of "The Hermit of Warkworth," stood on the southern bank of the river Tweed. It has fared worse than Warkworth, no vestige of it remaining.

BAMBOROUGH.

Accepting the ancient rules of fortification as adequate for defensive purposes, no situation in the county of Northumberland is so strong and formidable as the truly grand Castle of Bamborough. It is built on the solid rock, and presents an appearance of solidity and massiveness not to be paralleled elsewhere. Its boldness of outline and individuality of aspect are seen to most advantage on its land side. On the sea side, the ground is broken and irregular. From here, the group of the Farn Islands, the Holy Islands, with the town of Berwick-on-Tweed to the left, and the ruins of Dunstanborough Castle to the right, may be easily traced. The principal entrance is through a gateway, which is strengthened by a round tower placed on each side. There is a portcullis which can be worked, it being

* *Calendar of State Papers, Domestic Addenda (Mary).*

† *Calendar of State Papers, Domestic Addenda (Elizabeth).*

in perfect order. The gateway is machicolated. A strong tower of Saxon origin commands the road which skirts the sea-wall and leads to the Norman keep. This latter building is square in form, composed of hard stone, the walls being of great thickness. The entrance is by a circular low-arched doorway. A peculiar feature inside is a well, 150 feet in depth. There is a board or court room, in which are preserved some specimens of tapestry, as well as some portraits of Lord and Lady Crewe and other benefactors to the Crewe Charity. In other rooms are some arms, principally matchlock musquets and pikes. Two small Lochaber axes present themselves as more rare examples of defensive weapons. The library, which owes its existence to Archdeacon Sharpe, is full of many choice volumes, which may be consulted during Saturday by residents in the neighbourhood.* An interesting discovery was made in the year 1773. In effecting some alterations, a large accumulation of sand was removed, and the remains of a chapel found. Its length is 100 feet. The chancel is 36 feet long, and 20 broad. The east end indicates a Saxon origin. It is semicircular in shape; and the altar stood in the centre of the semicircle. Bamborough Castle may be taken in its entirety as the best type of a feudal stronghold yet standing.

Ida, a Saxon King of Northumbria, erected a castle here in 550. This fortress was frequently besieged, attacked, and partially destroyed by the Danes. After the Conquest, it was held by Mowbray, Earl of Northumberland; and Rufus laid siege to it, eventually dispossessing the Earl.† It underwent a number of vicissitudes; and was visited by more than one of our kings and queens. It was in the hands of the Crown in the middle of the sixteenth century, for we find the Secretary of the Council writing to Lord Wharton on the 19th of May, 1557, stating that the King and Queen thank him for offering to inform the commissioners appointed to meet the Scots of all that can serve them. A command is also given that

* Books may be borrowed by residents within twenty miles of the castle.

† Rufus, unable to conquer the defenders of the castle, erected a fort hard by, which bore the name of Malvoisin.

those who have the charge of Dunstanborough and Bamborough Castles should reside in them. The beacons at the latter are to be watched.* Queen Mary writes to the Earl of Westmoreland, having seen his letters on the state of Bamborough Castle, and informs him that she has written on this date, March 9th, 1558, to Sir John Forster, captain, requiring him either to reside in the castle or to deliver up the charge and profits.† In the reign of Edward VI., repairs of the castle were reported to be needful. The same Sir John Forster was governor of this fortress in Elizabeth's time. Forster was Warden of the Marches; and his family held possession of it for many years, until the early part of the eighteenth century, when all the interest in it was purchased by Lord Crewe, Bishop of Durham, who, in default of issue, left all his property to be used for charitable purposes.‡ A trustee to this great benevolence was Dr. Sharpe, Arch-deacon of Northumberland. He repaired and restored the castle, and caused the funds to be devoted to the education of poor girls.§ He founded a dispensary, and many other excellent institutions. Amongst the names and crimes of people who were excommunicated, so to speak, and presented to the Consistory Court of Arches in Durham in the latter half of the seventeenth century, are the following :

"BAMBOROUGH, 21st May, 1681.

- "Thomas Anderson, of Swinhoe, for playing on a Sunday on a bagpipe before a bridegroom, and for not receiving Communion, and neglecting to attend Divine Service.
- "Eliza Mills, for scolding, and drying fish on the Lord's Day.
- "William Young, for being a common swearer."

On the slope of the hill on which the castle stands there lies a battered gun injured at the muzzle. Other guns, but

* *Calendar of State Papers, Domestic Addenda (Mary).*

† *Ibid.*

‡ *Raine's North Durham.*

§ In 1570 an inquisition and survey was made by order of the Government of Queen Elizabeth, the report made being that Bamborough Castle was in utter decay and ruin.

serviceable, and two mortars are ready for use. When the weather is foggy, a signal is fired off every quarter of an hour to warn mariners from the dangerous proximity of the rocks. This is provided for, and a life-boat maintained, out of the funds of the Crewe Charity.

NORHAM.

Norham Castle is situated on the brink of a steep rock, and stands in lonely isolation, with the Tweed running fair and free below. It was built in 1121 by Flambard, Bishop of Durham, a tyrannous minister of William Rufus. It was almost entirely destroyed by the Scots in 1138, under King David; but repaired and restored by Pudsey, the successor of Flambard in the see. Our King John resided for a season within its walls. It was here that Edward I. held a council to determine the occupancy of the Scottish throne. The Scots, having laid waste the village of Norham, made an ineffectual attempt to seize the castle.* In subsequent years, during the reigns of Henry IV., V., and VI., and in later periods of our history, Norham Castle occupied a great vantage-ground in the Border Wars. It was considered to be the strongest fortress on or about the Marches. In 1513, James IV. besieged it, prior to the battle of Flodden Field. It received great injury at this time; but Fox, Bishop of Durham, came to the rescue. His letter to Mr. Almoner Wolsey states, "As touching the Castell of Norham, thanks be to God and Saynt Cuthbert, it is not so ill as I supposid, for the donegeon and the inner ward shal be renewed shortly; and if I be not lettyd by the Scots, I trust, if all promysses be kept with me, they shall be in better cas than they war by Whitsontye." All kinds of artificers were at work to repair the damage done.† There were "smythys working on the iron gats and dorys, my carpenters upon roffs, my masons in devysing for stony, my lyme brenners set in wark, and to spare no money though I lyve a pore lyfe till it be fynished." In 1521, the keep is represented to be impregnable. In 1552,

* For this end, the celebrated gun Mons Meg (still preserved at Edinburgh) was brought, at an enormous cost, in front of the keep, but without any proportionate result.

† *Raine's North Durham.*

report is made of repairs being requisite, owing to the weak condition of the castle.* A large store of provisions was thought necessary; so that three hogsheads of salted salmon, forty quarters of grain, and four hundred sheep were kept within the walls. In the early part of 1558, Richard Norton, being captain of the castle, complained to the Queen, in a letter dated 23rd of January, of the great embarrassment in which he is placed. Not only is he in debt himself, but has his father's debts to discharge; besides which, his health is so indifferent, and the situation is so far removed from the haunts of men, there is no advice attainable. He has sold his whole estate in Norham for £300 to Sir Henry Percy, the Deputy-Warden. His health will not allow him to remain at Norham. He appeals to the Queen to be "my good and gracious lady."† Twelve years later on, Allan King writes to Sir Henry Percy, calling him Captain of Norham and Tynemouth Castles. Queen Elizabeth gave the castle to Sir Robert Carey, who was the younger son of Lord Hunsdon, her cousin. James I. rested here on his road to London to take possession of the crown of England, and here he was nobly entertained by Sir Robert and Lady Carey.

As a mere ruin, as it now stands, Norham presents many features of great architectural interest. The keep can be examined almost in detail. Its walls are thirteen in some parts, and in others fifteen feet thick. Although the wall looking westward is Norman, yet many particulars, such as windows and doors, are Decorated. In the interior, the divisions of the four floors and basement may be traced. In the second floor, there may be seen a Norman recess and a Norman window. The north wall is gone, but the south, west, and east walls remain. In the west wall is a spiral staircase. The west gateway is in part tolerably perfect. Every portion of the ruin is roofless. Much rough work of red sandstone lies in remnants within the curtain walls; and the absence of ornamentation is a special feature on all the fragments, whether displaced or in their original

* *Calendar of State Papers, Domestic Addenda (1552).*

† *Calendar of State Papers, Domestic Addenda (Mary).*

position. The earthworks and natural platform on which the castle is built adjoin the river Tweed. A fertile meadow spreads its bravery of green luxuriance beyond, and that is Scotland. Nowhere else can you see the natural division of the two kingdoms so distinctively. You can here realize the stories of attack and defence, the tactics of the besieged and the besiegers, you can imagine with exactitude a raid of the Border chiefs, and you can test how wisely the old engineers prepared to repel by every form of earthwork and stout masonry the inroads of the Scots.

For those who delight in the remembrance of the great "Wizard of the North," and can recall how admirably in his poem of *Marmion* he sings of this interesting border-fortress, additional pleasure is added to the place:

Day set on Norham's castled steep,
And Tweed's fair river broad and deep,
And Cheviot's mountains lone.
The battled towers, the donjon keep,
The loophole grates where captives weep,
The flanking walls that round it sweep,
In yellow lustre shone.

To the professional architect and the military antiquarian, Mr. G. T. Clark's masterly article on this castle in the thirty-third volume of the *Journal of the Archaeological Institute* appeals as an exhaustive history.



William d'Ypres, Earl of Kent.

WAS William d'Ypres—who was one of the greatest soldiers in the time of King Stephen, and the founder of Boxley Abbey—also Earl of Kent, or is the earldom doubtful, as suggested by Professor Freeman and Dr. Stubbs? I glean from Mr. Freeman's expressions, that with himself, at any rate, the question was rather one of transient suspicion than a conclusion arrived at after research, and so also possibly with Dr. Stubbs, whose remarks on the point I have been unable to inspect.

In page 181 of the *Antiquary* of 1886, vol. xiv., I observed that few, perhaps, of genealogists even would care to investigate early

authorities as to whether William d'Ypres, some seven hundred years ago, was actually Earl of Kent; and in making that remark I had before me a similar observation of Lord Chancellor Campbell, in a case where Burnet, with his usual inaccuracy, having made an erroneous statement as to the creation of a peerage, Hume, following, adopted it. Lord Campbell, while correcting the error, remarked: "Such matters are little noticed."

Still, I should not have ventured to question even the floating doubts of two so eminent authorities as Professor Freeman and Dr. Stubbs on points of early history without investigation of my own. When, therefore, in the *Antiquary*, on Boxley Abbey, I gave its founder as Earl of Kent, in opposition to their opinion, I did so partly from a personal knowledge of the coast works of defence in the territorial jurisdiction of the earldom of Kent, which d'Ypres has left, still standing, denoting his position as Earl of Kent, and bearing his name up to the present day; and partly on the authorities I shall adduce. And the more the subject is looked into, the more clearly will it appear (as it seems to me) that W. d'Ypres was, and officially acted as, Earl of Kent. If he so acted, the creation in some form is to be presumed—"omnia presumuntur riti acta."

The great Danish, Saxon, or Norman earls of North Humber and of Kent were not territorial princes (Freeman), gradually withdrawing themselves from the authority of their nominal overlord, but great magistrates, wielding a power well-nigh royal—that is, royal within their several governments; elsewhere he terms them "viceroy," but wielding a power only by delegation from the common sovereign. Canute divided England among a few earls, who were distinctly representative of the King. One of the first duties of these earls was the defence of the realm from enemies by castles, or such works, and more especially the sea-coast from invasion. From the time of the Norman Conquest and earlier, Rye and Winchelsea were the main royal ports in the south, under the superintendence of the Earls of Kent, whose jurisdiction extended from the south coasts of Sussex and Kent, up towards the great *Andrada's Weald*. "At Rye" (briefly wrote Rickman) "is a castellated building called

Ipres Tower." That tower shows by its whole character that it was erected by some one for and entrusted with the defence of the realm. Every fisherman at Rye and Winchelsea still knows it by the same name, and thus, as a leader in the *Times* not long ago remarked: "Writers with a slender stock of documentary evidence have had the national tradition and instinct to keep them from going far wrong in their general conclusion." In brief, d'Ypres Tower is alone, and almost of itself, a standing testimony that it was erected by d'Ypres, as the earl defender of the coast, as another Earl of Kent subsequently discharged a like duty in protecting it in the person of Hubert de Burgh, whose resolute defence of Dover Castle against Lewis of France saved England from a French dynasty. There can be no mistake as to the nature of the building: at Rye it stands on a rock under which the sea flowed in the days of Stephen, long before the silting up which spoilt the harbour of Rye. D'Ypres Tower is of the same nature as, though different in architectural construction from, Bamborough Castle, in Northumberland, raised also as a protection from invasion. During the reign of Stephen upwards of 1,100 castles were built, it is recorded, by the nobility; but it was agreed, in the ultimate peace concluded between Stephen and Henry Plantagenet (Henry II.), that they should be pulled down. From this agreement d'Ypres Tower was excepted, clearly as having been, we may conclude, raised under national authority for national defence.

Camden, according to Hasted (*History of Kent*), writing of d'Ypres as *Earl of Kent*, tells us that d'Ypres fortified the town of Rye in Kent, where he built a tower in memory of him; and also obtained several privileges for it in common with the rest of the Cinque Ports. Camden's exact words, as precise as can be, are: "For that it [Rye] flourished in ancient times, and that William de Ypres, *Earl of Kent*, fortified it, Ypres Tower and the immunities and privileges that it had in common with the Cinque Ports sufficiently show" (Camden's *Brit.*, vol. i., p. 211). In addition to Camden, Rapin terms d'Ypres Earl of Kent.

On the other hand, Mr. J. H. Round, asserts that the *sole* ground for assigning

d'Ypres the title of earl "is the foreign writer Meyer, who may well have misunderstood his exact status;" and, adds Mr. Round, his own researches have been exhaustive, "in no single instance before, in, or after 1141, in Charters, Pipe Rolls, Chronicles, etc., etc., has he found William of Ypres styled Earl of Kent."^{*}

On turning, however, to Dugdale's *Monasticon*, we find Dugdale terming d'Ypres Earl of Kent, and quoting from a Latin Rochester chronicle, as an authority, in appendix. Dugdale's appendix authority calls d'Ypres "*prefectus*," which, considering the functions of the old Saxon earls, is even more expressive than Comes (Earl) would be. The objection raised to Meyer appears equally groundless, and the fact of his being a foreigner to be, rather than otherwise, in his favour, if I am right in my conjecture as to who he was. James Meyer I suppose to have been the Flemish writer born in Flanders, who died there in 1552. He wrote a chronicle of Flanders, was a genealogist, and compiled a work on the antiquity and genealogy of the Counts of Flanders. Is it not to be fairly inferred that he would naturally make himself acquainted with everything connected with the early history of all the Counts of Flanders, and more particularly of so celebrated a Flemish soldier as William d'Ypres, who is recorded to have been an illegitimate son of Philip d'Ypres, Earl of Flanders? After the death of Stephen, according to Rapin and others, William d'Ypres, Earl of Kent, was compelled to quit England with his mercenary troops, when he returned to Flanders, assumed the cowl, and died, blind, a monk in the monastery of Laon, in Flanders. In Flanders, then, surely his rank and position when in England would be ascertained and recorded, and there, of all places, Meyer would be unlikely to forge for him the title of Earl of Kent. He is stated to have died January 24, 1162.

That Mr. Round should have searched unsuccessfully amongst Pipe Rolls, Charters, etc., generally for a confirmation of d'Ypres' title of earl, is not surprising. A cloud hung over the reign of Stephen as a usurper, who, as

* I inadvertently misquoted Mr. Round in the *Antiquary* last year owing to my having mistaken the first word in one line for the first word in the line previous. I trust I am now more fortunate.

William of Newburgh wrote, had seized the crown "contra jus humanum et divinum." "Everything," wrote Lord Campbell, searching for information about the chancellors in Stephen's reign, "*is in impenetrable obscurity; of this disturbed period little can be learned.*" As the shadow over Anne Boleyn led to the destruction of documents connected with her trial, no wonder that d'Ypres' title as a chartered record was not carefully preserved. Since it was only by arrangement, as Lord Campbell terms it, that Stephen himself was allowed to reign during his life, it is likely enough that records would not be preserved in early Plantagenet days, testifying to honours showered on the man of all others who had kept Stephen on his usurped throne, and debarred the mother of Henry II. of her rights as Queen.

It might, however, have been expected, perhaps, that among the early records of Rye, some allusions would be found directly or indirectly to d'Ypres' earldom; but, as stated in the fifth Report of the Royal Commission on Historical MSS. (Report and Appendix, p. 18), the greater part of the archives of Rye was destroyed when the place was attacked and burnt by the French in 1377, and again in 1448. That report, therefore, though it gives much interesting information about Rye, refers to facts of a later date than Stephen's age. Still the report here and there mentions d'Ypres' fortification, and observes: "The Tower of Ypres here mentioned, built by William of Ypres in the time of Stephen, is still an ornament to the town of Rye."

As mentioned, the date of that report is 1876. Some correspondence passed between myself and Mr. Dawes, the courteous Town Clerk of Rye, as to whether, since that date, anything had come to his knowledge, as one acquainted officially with the town records and charters, throwing doubts on d'Ypres' earldom, to which Mr. Dawes thus replied: "I have not at any time ascertained anything that would lead me to think it doubtful whether Wm. d'Ypres was actually Earl of Kent."

Mr. Dawes' negative testimony that he had found nothing amongst charters or records impeaching d'Ypres' traditional earldom, as positively asserted by Camden, may

be set against Mr. Round's negative testimony that he had found nothing creating it.

The Report of the Royal Commission on Historical MSS. quoted, observes, p. 488, "The charters granted to the town (Rye), individually or in common with the rest of the Cinque Ports, are to be found in Jeakes's *History of the Cinque Ports*, Holloway's *History and Antiquities of Rye*," etc., etc.; and again, p. 502, "The oldest bit of writing, probably, the charters excepted, which have been described by Mr. Holloway in his *History and Antiquities of Rye*," etc., etc. I have not myself seen Mr. Holloway's history, nor had I even heard of the work, until it was mentioned to me by Mr. Dawes, who kindly forwarded to me the following extract, which, I need scarcely point out, comes from one who should be informed on the point in question, and is hardly to be supposed would have written as he has, unless he felt he was on safe ground. It is true the writer of the official report expresses an opinion that Mr. Holloway has not given all he might from the voluminous records of Rye which were submitted to him; but I do not observe the report to have in any way questioned Mr. Holloway's positive statement of the existence of d'Ypres' earldom :

"*Ypres Tower*.—The building which claims the greatest antiquity in the town of Rye is Ypres Tower, which, having been built by William of Ypres in the latter part of the twelfth century, still retains his name. This nobleman, who lived in the reign of King Stephen, was by this monarch created Earl of Kent; then it was, most probably, that he erected this castle, being called upon, by virtue of his new office, to provide for the defence of the coast, his jurisdiction extending over the county of Sussex as well as that of Kent. In the same manner, I presume, as, at a later period in our history, the two counties of Kent and Sussex were under the jurisdiction of the same sheriff, as appears in Cade's rebellion, who was killed in Heathfield, in Sussex, by Alexander of Iden, who is called sheriff of these two counties."—Holloway's *Antiquities of Rye*.

There is, moreover, the following very strong evidence in favour of d'Ypres' earldom. The most ample of early writers on Stephen's reign, from whose accounts most

of the details of that time are derived, is Henry of Huntingdon, and he having told us in his eighth book how Stephen, "*fretus vigore et impudentia*," broke his oath and seized the British crown, subsequently writes of Stephen's favourite general, W. d'Ypres, as "*vir exconsularis et magna probitatis*." And here let us mark the comment of Mr. Freeman on the word "*consularis*." Referring to Robert, Earl of Gloucester, brother of Queen Matilda, Mr. Freeman has remarked: "Robert, like other earls, was, by those who affected the polite style of writing, called Consul rather than Comes. This had led some persons to fancy that he was, or was called, Consul in some special way. We see this . . . when he appears as Robert Consyl." So that we have Henry of Huntingdon, Camden, and Dugdale, the last on the authority of a deed or charter, all testifying to d'Ypres having been Earl of Kent.

At the battle of Lincoln d'Ypres must have seen from the first that Stephen's case there was hopeless. Stephen individually fought with great bravery. His sword breaking in his hand, he seized the Danish axe offered to him by a Lincolner, and fought with it until, knocked down by a stone, he was seized by the helmet by one William of Cains. W. d'Ypres then, having put to flight the Welsh troops opposed to him, left the field with his troops, and hastened to Kent, where, as Freeman states, he kept men in their allegiance (surely as *praefectus* or earl).* "All England now submitted to the Empress, save Kent alone."

W. d'Ypres thus holding Kent with his basis of operations on fortified Rye, resembled in position the Duke of Wellington at Torres Vedras.

After the burning of Winchester, the tide of affairs again turned, and Robert of Gloucester, half-brother of the Queen, was taken prisoner, when he was committed to the custody of William d'Ypres, in Archbishop William's new castle of Rochester, where Gervase narrates that the earl's keeper was *Willielmus Yprensis*, "qui Cantiâ abute-

* Dugdale's *Rochester Chronicle*, above quoted: "The *Praefectus*, or Roman official in Britain during the time of Roman occupation, possessed both *civil* and *military power*."—Well's *Synopsis of English History*.

batur." Was not D'Ypres then therein acting as Earl of Kent, in whom at that time were vested the functions in later days attaching to the duties of sheriff of a county? Can it be supposed, too, that Stephen, who has been handed down to us as a peculiarly munificent rewarder of his followers, would have kept from the man who had not only fortified the Kentish earldom's coast from invasion, but preserved the county of Kent, and thereby the kingdom, to him in his greatest adversity, the best reward in his gift, the earldom of Kent?*

Stephen seems generally to have carried out the stipulation of his treaty with Henry, of November, 1153, that all the castles which had sprung up unlawfully during the days of confusion should be swept away; and on the death of Stephen the Flemish wolves, as Gervase termed the Flemish troops under d'Ypres, were expelled the kingdom.

To this title of *Flandrenses Lupi* it is gratifying, when standing on the grass slope that covers much of the ruins of Boxley Abbey, to remember that there was at any rate one exception in William d'Ypres, its pious founder, handed down to us by history as "*magna probitatis*"—of great probity. I submit to the reader of the *Antiquary* that there is as little reason to doubt his earldom as there is to question his higher and better title.

Howe'er it be, it seems to me,
'Tis only noble to be good.

If we desire to carry our reflections on the past further, we may ponder over the vicissitudes of fate as exemplified in the history of this abbey. Reared in the worst days of blood and rapine, it testifies, notwithstanding, to the strong feelings of religion then existing, while sacrilegiously destroyed at the commencement of the Reformation, we are reminded that the great head and chief of that moral cyclone in its noon-day was the Protector, Duke of Somerset, who projected the demolition of Westminster Abbey, which infamous piece of rapacity he would assuredly have carried out, had it not been averted by the chapter bribing him by the grant of some of their estate.

FREDERIC R. SURTEES.

* Weever (*Funeral Monuments*, p. 289,) states that the King created him Earl of Kent.

The Antiquary's Note-Book.

(Concluded.)

Additions to Ritson's *Bibliographia Poetica*. By W. C. Hazlitt.—Shepherd, Tony or Anthony, probably wrote the pieces in *England's Helicon*, 1600, subscribed *Shepherd Tonie*.

Shepherd, Luke, of Colchester, appears to be "the one Luke, a physician," who wrote *John Bon and Mast Person*.

Sidley, Ralph. As to his verses before Greene's *Never too Late*, 1590, it may be mentioned that in the edition of 1631 he is called *Sidney*, doubtless by mistake.

Skipwith, Sir W., wrote verses, which survive in MS. at Bridgewater House. See Hunter's *New Illustrations of Shakespeare*, 1845, i. 75; ii. 337.

Sinetes. Written by Robert Parry. See my *Handbook*, 1867, Additions *in v.*

Smith, Richard. See also Laing's *Notes on the English Version of Henryson's Aësop*, 1577, in his edition of that writer, 8vo., 1865.

Smyth, Thomas, wrote certain ballads, which are reprinted in my *Fugitive Tracts*, 1875, first series, from the unique originals in the Society of Antiquaries' Library.

Spigurnel, Andrew and Thomas, have respectively metrical apologetics in eight 7-line stanzas before the *Castle of Love*, translated from the Spanish of Diego di San Pedro by Lord Berners, about 1550, and a page of verse in praise of the book and the author prefixed to Munday's *Mirror of Mutability*, 1579.

Staff, Rod, probably Rodolph or Ralph Stafford, was part-writer of *Tancred and Gismunda*, 1568-1591.

Stapleton, Richard, gentleman, is supposed with some probability to be identical with the R. S. of the Inner Temple who edited the *Phoenix Nest*, 1593.

Stewart, William, has a sonnet with the Scottish Catechism, 8vo., Edinburgh, 1564.

Stow, John, historian, has translations into English verse, apparently by himself, of certain quotations in his *Chronicle*.

Stubbes, Philip. Ritson's account is unsatisfactory.

Sw., Jo., has verses with W. Kempe's *Education of Children*, 1588.

Sylvester, Joshua. Two pieces by him are in the Madrigals of Orlando Gibbons. See Rimbault's *Bibliotheca Madrigaliana*, xi., note; and compare also Collier's *Memoirs of the Actors in Shakespeare's Plays*, p. xxv.

T. R. Prefixed to *A Discourse proving that Peter was never at Rome*, is "A Description of the Pope," in verse, by the author, probably the same R. T., gentleman, who has verses before Bale's *Pageant of Popes*, 1574.

Tarlton, Richard. In *Tarlton's News out of Purgatory* (1590), if indeed Tarlton wrote that work, occurs "Ronsard's Description of his Mistris," in verse. The *Tragical Treatises*, known to Ritson only from their registration, survive in a copy lately discovered, but unluckily imperfect.

Timme, Thomas, has two pages of verse headed *The Translator to th Reader* before *Newes from Ninial* by Johannes Brentius, 1570, and an acrostic on [Sir] Richard Baker on the back of the title of his (Timme's) translation of Ramus *On the Civil Wars of France*, 1574; and at p. 113 occurs a further specimen of his talent for versification. Ritson (under TYMME) mentions that this person has a poetical address before Sir Francis Bryan's translation of Guevara's *Dispraise of a Courtier's Life*, 1575; but that work had originally appeared in 1548, and Tymme or Timme contributed the verses to a late reprint.

Thynne, Francis. The MS. volume of *Emblems and Epigrams* at Bridgewater House and his *Animadversions on Chaucer* appear to be the only productions which can be safely ascribed to his pen.

Turberville, George. According to Fry's *Bibliographical Memoranda*, 1816, p. 146, there was a copy of Turberville's *Tragical Tales*, 8vo., 1576, in Osborne's Catalogue for 1750, Poetry in octavo, where it is described as half-bound, in black-letter, price 5s.; but no such edition has come under my observation. Tilly, in one of his later catalogues, had a copy of that of 1587. It appears from a note in Harington's *Ariosto*, 1591, that Turberville had already translated the tale of *Ariodante and Jenevra* "learnedly and with good grace, though in verses of another kind."

Turges, Edward, was the author of a *Song in Praise of Arthur Prince of Wales*, 1501, printed from a MS. in Rimbault's *Songs and*

Ballads, 1851. A second copy is in Add. MS. B.M. 5465.

Turner, William, M.D. The *Huntyng of the Romyshe Vuolfe*, with the exception of eighteen lines on A 3 verso, is entirely prose. In a reprint of this work, apparently edited by Knox, and furnished at all events with a preface by that writer, the original dedication by Turner and the verses headed "The Romyshe Foxe lately returned into Englande agayne speaketh," are omitted. His *Dialoge wherein is contayned the examination of the masse*, is likewise prose, with the exception of a copy of verses on the back of the title, headed "The Masse speaketh." He has six lines at the back of the title of the *Comparison betwene the olde learning and the neuwe*; and on the back of the title to his *Rescwyng of the Romishe Foxe* there are ten lines beneath a cut of a fox holding a crozier, headed "The banished foxe of rome speaketh."

Tirwhitt, Lady Elizabeth, has "An Hymne of the State of all Adams posterite," etc., in verse, with her volume of *Prayers, Psalms, etc.*, 12mo., 1574.

Underhill, Edward, has four stanzas of four lines at the end of his *Narrative* printed by Arber (*Garner*, iv. 100). He is the same as "Underhill," cited by Ritson himself as the writer of a ballad.

Uvedale (or Udall), Nicholas, has "carmen ad libellum suum" before his own English version of the *Vulgaria* of Terence, 1533. Ritson mentions in a note that Leland, Udall's literary coadjutor in a certain undertaking, always spelled his name *Leland*, "which no one after him had a right to alter." At all events, in a copy of verses attached to the book above quoted, he calls himself *Lelandus*.

Vaux, Thomas, Lord. Ritson says that in his contributions to the *Paradise of Dainty Devices*, 1576, he is distinguished by the title of "Lord Vaux the elder." But there is a poem in that miscellany, probably his, subscribed *L. V.*

Vere, Edward, Earl of Oxford. The lines by him, referred to by Ritson as printed from an ancient MS., were probably derived from the Cornwallis MS., of which a transcript was bound up at the end of an imperfect copy of Watson's *Ecatonpathia* in George Steevens's

collection. Eighteen lines by the Earl are given from a MS. in the Bodleian in the *Oxford Herald* for August 11, 1810. They begin, "If women could be fayre," etc., and are subscribed, "Finis Earll of Oxenforde."

W. A. has some rather interesting, though rough, lines on Drake, to whom the volume is inscribed, before W. Kempe of Plymouth's translation of the *Art of Arithmeticke*, by P. Ramus, 8vo., 1592. He loses sight of Kempe in his enthusiasm for the Devonshire hero, whose naval exploits he commemoates.

W. B. Esquire, has, at end of Whitstone's Poems on Sydney, 1586, a *Brief Commemoration* in verse on the same subject.

Wealth, Luke, has a Thanksgiving in eight six-line stanzas, with a tract printed in 1589, and dedicated by him to the Earl of Leicester on the successes obtained by the French king (Henry IV.), 4to., 1589.

Wenman, Thomas, is supposed to be the author of *The Legend of Mary Queen of Scots*, printed by Fry from a MS., 8vo., 1810. See Manningham's *Diary*, ed. Bruce, p. 117. A Thomas Wenman, of the Inner Temple, has verses before the second book of Browne's *Britannia's Pastorals*, 1616.

Wightland, Matthew, prefixes four six-line stanzas to Munday's *Mirror of Mutability*, 1579.

Willis, R., is the author of a series of MS. quatrains in hexameter and pentameter verse accompanying a copy of a Latin Bible, and intended to illustrate the wood-cuts therein. On the first leaf occurs his autograph, "R. Willis, 1548." A note in Sotheby's Catalogue says: "These verses were so highly thought of by the late Rev. H. Latham, that he transcribed them for publication."

Wislake, Abraham, has verses with W. Kempe of Plymouth's *Education of Children in Learning*, 4to., 1588.

Wolnough, Charles, has verses on the Prelates' Corner-caps and Suspension from Preaching in MS. at the end of a copy of Penri's *Exhortation unto the Government and People of Wales*, 8vo., 1588. (Fuller Russell's Catalogue, June, 1885, No. 866.)

Wright, Leonard, inserted in his *Display of Duty*, 1589, a poem "In prayse of Friendship."

Wroth, John and William, each of whom describes himself as "Gentilhomme Anglais,"

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have a sonnet before Bellot's *French Grammar*, 1578.

Yloop. "Mister Steevens," says Ritson, "suppos'd his real name to be Pooley; which, adds Mister Park, occurs in Yates's *Miscellany of Poems*, 1582." It also occurs in the correspondence of Charles I. (First Report of the Royal Commission on Historical MSS., p. 6; and see Collier's *Bibliographical Catalogue*, ii. 552).

Corrections and Additional Notes, Ritson, p. 403. P. 19, note †, "Chatterton must be acquitted," etc. It was not necessary for Chatterton to go to Fuller for the anecdote of Chaucer; for the story is told in Speght's edition, 1598, sign. b. iii. recto.

Farther illustrations of the present subject might, of course, be supplied from Collier's Catalogue, Corser's *Collectanea*, and similar sources; but I have confined myself to the marginalia in my own copy of Ritson. (*Conclusion*.)

Jacobstow Church, Cornwall.—This parish appears in the Cornish *Domesday Book* as Penhalvn, and a part is still named Penhallum. It seems the Champernownes were Lords of the Manor, and held much property in neighbouring parishes. Prebendary Hingeston-Randolph kindly gives me the following notes as to rectors of old: "A.D. 1270. On the day after Trinity Sunday (i.e., 8th June), the Bishop admitted to this rectory, Richard de Cetrefort, sub-deacon, patron Sir Henry de Campo Arnulfi (Champernowne). A.D. 1272. On the Saturday next after the Feast of St. Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist, the Bishop ordained Robert de Bicalee to the order of sub-deacon, and then admitted him to the Rectory of 'St. James de Penelym,' on the presentation of Sir Henry de Champernowne, Knt. A.D. 1283. On the Monday next after the Feast of the Annunciation, Oliver Champernowne, sub-deacon, was instituted by Bishop Quivil, on the presentation of the Dame Dionisia Champernowne. John Hesyll was Rector of Jacobstowe before 1395, when Stafford became Bishop, and when Stafford died, at the end of 1419, Hesyll survived. He was a Canon of the Collegiate Church of St. Thomas the Martyr, Glasney, and obtained license of non-residence for one year, from 26th October, 1398, to

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enable him to reside in the College, and on condition that he did so. Also, a similar license, for two years, from 7th October, 1405, and again, and this time unconditionally, for one year, from 27th June, 1410." The Champernownes being powerful and Lords of the Manor, could easily have caused such a handsome church (as that of St. James then was) to be built. We have found at the right hand, inside the south door, a large piscina. It is of very early work, and has a drain—Norman work, very rude—around. Also at the north door, right hand as you go out, a stoup, similar to one portrayed in Parker's *Glossary of Architecture*, vol. i., p. 353, at the bottom of the page. We have found remains of a piscina of the Decorated period. Also a square stone with a large round hole in it, probably part of the pedestal of an old font. Also the pedestal—at least I think it is such—of very early work. Also remains of one, if not two, ancient windows, which were cut up and built into the crumbling chancel walls now rebuilding. It would be worth while for tourists with antiquarian tastes to call and view these remains, and a few shillings, or even pence, to help on our work would be most acceptable.—C.B.

A Publisher's Curiosities.—The *Publisher's Circular*, in giving an account of the publishing house of Rivington, describes a few of the curious old documents stored in the archives of the establishment at Waterloo Place, London. The *Circular* says that these parchments, in many ways, show the strength of the union which existed between the *literati* of the time and the old house. Documents of this nature have more than a trade interest; and, doubtless, many of them would be of great assistance to active students of our literary history. Perhaps it may interest our readers if we note a few of the documents possessed by Messrs. Rivington. On the 9th of May, 1720, Charlotte, Countess of Warwick ("Cha. Warwick"), assigns to Thomas Tickle, his executors, administrators, and assigns, "for valuable considerations," all Mr. Addison's works. Here is a receipt from that most erudite controversialist, the great Bentley: "May 23, 1732. Received of Mr. Jacob Tonson, One Hundred Guineas and twelve copies of my Edition of Milton's *Paradise Lost*, which is in full for the first Impression of it publish'd

Christmas last. I say received by me, Ri. Bentley." Among receipts to Tonson are also to be found several of Gay's. One for £105, for the remainder of the impression of his works in 2 vols. *The Fan* was assigned by "Mr." Gay on November 17, 1713. Bernard Lintot is a partner of Jacob Tonson's in agreeing with "Mr." Gay for an edition of all his books "upon Royal Paper in one volume in quarto." We see, also, Prior's assignment to Tonson, and Steele's assignment to the same bookseller of the *Fine Gentleman*, the sum paid being forty pounds, the date October 20, 1722. Perhaps the most interesting document in all the collection is Lintot's copy of the original agreement for the publication of Pope's translation of the *Iliad*, and Lintot's copy of the original agreement for Pope's *Odyssey*. There are also two agreements with Pope for the edition of Shakespeare, concerning which there was a wide and warm difference of opinion. A "Bargaine and Sale of $\frac{1}{5}$ of Tillotson from Mr. Rogers to Mr. Tonson, 20 July, 1711," is only interesting from a trade point of view. Very different is the "Assignment (Nov. 3, 1736) of a copy from Mrs. Bulkeley, Mrs. Henry, and others, to Mr. Richard Hett of Matthew Henry's *Commentaries*." Following this, we must mention Mrs. Ford's assignment (Dec. 20, 1738) of one-third of Dr. Watts's *Hymns* for £70. This parchment is signed "x the mark of Catherine Ford." For the sum of £15 15s. Henry Lintot transfers to James Hodges a fourth share in the works of the Earl of Rochester and a half share in the *Complete Gamester*. While referring to games we also notice a stamped document which also informs us that Thomas Osborne "hath purchased Hoyle's books on Whist." Edmund Hoyle signs this on Nov. 20, 1745. The archives of the house in Waterloo Place contain, as is natural, many interesting documents relating to their own publishing operations conducted under the family name. These papers, or parchments, relate chiefly to ecclesiastical literature. Such documents as Beilby and Porteus's assignment of Archbishop Secker's works, are very interesting, and few could help looking with something more than curiosity upon the words in which James Hervey assigns to John Rivington and James Rivington all "right and title in and to a copy of a book

written by me, entitled *Meditations and Contemplations*. In two Volumes. Vol. I. containing 'Meditations among the Tombs,' 'Reflections on a Flower Garden,' and a 'Descant on Creation.' In 1753 Samuel Richardson sold to John and James Rivington for £252 10s. shares in *An Universal History from the Earliest Account of Time*.

Puzzle Jugs.—Mr. Jewitt's papers on this subject (*Ante*, vol. xiii.) receive illustration from *Indian Notes and Queries*, vol. iv., p. 31.—Anand Varmma, Rájá of Chamba in the Panjab (died A.D. 1502), "was pious, and is said by his devotions to have attained miraculous powers. The following story is told of him: He married the daughter of the Rájá of Rángrá, and when he went to fetch the bride, the latter determined to test him; so he had a drinking-vessel made for him with three spouts to it, so that in whatever way Anand Varmma might drink from it, he would be wetted. He also had all the food placed just out of his reach. However, when the bridegroom lifted up the drinking-vessel, two snakes were created in the water, and stopped up two of the spouts, and the food miraculously moved to where he sat."—

SIDNEY HARTLAND.

Original Letters.—"Keswick, 13 Sept., 1825. Dear Sir,—I have learnt from Mr. Bowring that a small parcel of books was sent by him to your house for me last spring, but it has never found its way to me. The contents were the second volume of the Dutch translation of *Roderic*, bound in red morocco, and two other books of the same size. Cottle also informed me that he had sent a parcel for me to your house about three or four months ago. I hope they will both be found upon inquiry. Do not advertise me ever as Dr. Southey, which has been done with the *Tale of Paraguay*. There is an inconvenience in it, inasmuch as letters intended for me, sometimes after I leave town, or before I am expected in it, are naturally opened by my brother as intended for him. Please to send a copy of the *Paraguay* to my brother, Capt. Southey, at Cromer. I forgot to include him in the list. His number of subscribers is now very nearly full. Please to send me the Oxford edition of *Strype's Annals*, if it be published, and the *Memoir of Mrs. Green of York*. I have had

the pleasure of seeing Mr. Longman, and talking with him fully about the Early Poets. I shall want the earlier volumes of Chalmers for this. Anderson's collection I have; but Chalmers' contains several authors which are not in Anderson, and being infinitely less incorrect, is the one from which you will print, when no better edition is to be found. Tusser is one of the poets on the list which I have given to Mr. Longman, and I should like to see Mavor's edition, for the purpose of comparing it with that in the Somers Tracts (which I have), and deciding which text should be followed. My intention is to include in this selection as many as possible of the most important works which have been omitted both by Anderson and Chalmers, for the sake of which it will be purchased by many persons who have either the one or the other collection. I have no alterations to make in *Roderic*. Would it be advisable to try one of my poems on a small size, so as to put it in the way of popular sale—"Thalaba," perhaps, as the one which has sold least, and yet is more likely to attract young readers? I propose it as a question of speculation. It is a great satisfaction to hear that my boxes are on the way. Yours very truly, ROBERT SOUTHEY. To Messrs. Longman, Hurst and Co., Paternoster Row."— "My dear Sir,—You may well imagine (*you*, who know my sensitiveness on these points) what delight your letter of Friday gave me. Liberal and kind as was the conduct of yourself and partners in adding so much to the sum already stipulated for my task, I was still more gratified by the credit which the book is likely to reflect on us all, in the way of talent and character, for this tells advantageously for the future as well as the present. The little *catch-penny* I meditate shall not interfere with my greater objects, you may be sure. I should hope that the manner in which I have executed this very difficult Life, may lead the friends and relatives of Lord Byron to be more forthcoming with their confidence and assistance to me. I mean to try them all round again. Lord John thinks of starting about the 20th. I shall let you know when I am coming up. I have made little more than a few verbal alterations in the Life. There is a little awkwardness in the unprepared manner in which Miss Linley is first introduced, arising

from the necessity I was under of cancelling — letters, which was sure to leave some *botch* behind. I have not, however, made any alteration in it, as some worse mistake might arise from my not being on the spot to superintend the printing. Give my compliments to my good friend Mr. Shaw, and tell him I depend upon his care for the correctness of this edition, and particularly for attention to the verbal alterations which I have made. Yours, my dear sir, with very sincere thanks (which I beg you will communicate to Mr. Longman and Co.), THOMAS MOORE. October 9, 1825. Will you send to — the following books for me: *Gray's Geography*, *Pinnock's Catechism of English History*. Owen Rees, Esq." The above appears to have been sent with the revised proofs of the *Life of Sheridan*. "Lord John" is no doubt Lord J. Russell. "Miss Linley" was afterwards Mrs. Sheridan. There are two names I cannot quite decipher.—J. B.

Cleansing Churches.—At the beginning of the present century, when a rage for *cleansing* churches (as it was called) by means of whitewashing them—thus obliterating many a fine specimen of carved workmanship—fired the minds of rural churchwardens; when, also, it seemed good to them to remove ancient fonts, and to fill their places with little basins about the size of those used in the formation of puddings, the antique font in Harrow Church was literally cast out of the sacred edifice, and allowed to roll about in the adjacent burial-ground. Here, after the leaden lining had been torn out and disposed of, it might have remained, until, battered and weather-worn, it perished altogether. Fortunately, however, a lady (Mrs. Leith), who at that time occupied the Vicarage House, and the garden adjoining the churchyard, happened to observe the deplorable condition to which the font had been reduced; and, having obtained possession of it, placed it in her garden, hoping that in due time, if kept there in security, it might be restored to its proper position in the church. Thus, after an interval of many years—during which it was clad with ivy, and protected from the weather in a sheltered nook—it was, on the restoration of the church, reclaimed; and, being polished and

mounted on a suitable block of stone, occupies once more its appropriate place, and forms a prominent and interesting feature in that beautiful and ancient structure.—F. R. M.



Antiquarian News.

Wincanton Church, Somerset, is being rebuilt—the old fabric having been pulled down. In removing the south wall, a stone, 3 feet by 2 feet 6 inches, was found, and on it was a carving in high relief. The subject was a blacksmith's shop, with anvil, water-trough, and forge, on the chimney of which are depicted blacksmith's tools. On the sinister side of the forge is an animal, probably an ass, behind which stands a man. On the dexter side is a mitred bishop holding a crosier, and a layman kneeling at his feet. It is thought the whole represents a scene from the life of St. Eloy, a French saint who flourished in the seventh century, and who was the patron of blacksmiths and goldsmiths; but the reason of his appearing in Wincanton Church still remains to be given.

Upwards of 3,000 ounces of silver plate, fifty oil paintings and engravings, including Salvator Rosa's "Date Obolum Bellisario," a valuable collection of violins (one a Straduarius, 1718), and old china, together with general furniture of a choice description, were sold at Parkfield, Paignton, on October 4 and following days, by Mr. R. Waycott. Instructions for the sale were given by the trustees of the late Mrs. Dendy.

It is reported from Paris that M. Henri Buchet has found in the National Library at Paris, on the covers of a prayer-book, the likenesses of King Charles VIII. of France and his Queen, Anne of Bretagne. The covers are of mahogany, and must be among the earliest specimens of that wood brought to Europe. These, it is said, are the only known likenesses of the royal pair extant.

The church of St. Mary-le-Strand is in danger of being improved out of existence, in consequence of a few stones having fallen from its cornice. It is but a few years since it was denuded of all the vases, which gave great life and charm to its outline, because, forsooth, some of them were decayed. With its neighbour (St. Clement's) it composes a charming group and vista, to which Sir J. C. Robinson has in the *Times* called attention with the following remark:—"Our great-grandfathers, a century ago,

were alive to the scenic beauty of this picture. Old Carrington Bowles and his fellow-printsellers in the Strand close by graved it again and again in 'copperplate.' I have more than once seen the well-known prints framed and hung up admiringly in foreign parts, in Mediterranean seaports and old Spanish hotels, calling up irresistible thrills and thoughts of home and of Old London in my mind."

During building operations on Botolph Wharf, one of the shore piles of the first London Bridge, which is mentioned in Stowe's *Chronicles* as having been erected in the time of William the Conqueror, has been unearthed. The pile was dug up at a depth of 20 feet below the surface. It is apparently of oak, an irregular square, about 9 inches across in either direction. From the grain of the wood and the position of the centre of the rings, it seems that the pile was not square, but oblong in section. The edges that join the two faces are almost black, and show the fibre of the wood, saturated and blackened with 800 years of immersion in the Thames water and mud, and its weight is, of course, increased thereby. But even yet the stout fibres hold together, and the pile might be used as a trustworthy prop for other eight centuries, for it is in an admirable state of preservation, and right up to the heart seems as solid as ever.

In the course of some drainage works being carried out in a mansion of the Tudor period, occupied by Mr. Tucker, at Cowick Barton, near Exeter, the workmen at the beginning of last month came upon a stone coffin containing bones. Further exploration revealed more bones in a stone-walled grave lying in the immediate neighbourhood, some tiles, the remains of a leaden chalice, and a coin. It is thought that the workmen have brought to light the site of the old Priory Chapel of St. Andrew, belonging to the Benedictine Order. The Priory was founded by the Courtenay family, and passed at the time of the Dissolution of the monasteries into the hands of the Russells, by whom it appears to have been demolished. The remains in the coffin are considered to be those of one of the Courtenays. The coffin itself, the position of which is supposed to mark the site of the high altar, seems to be of thirteenth-century work. It is 10 inches deep inside and 2 feet outside measurement, 2 feet 6 inches wide at the head, and 19 inches at the foot, and of some material like Portland stone. The cover, made of one solid block, was cemented down, with a large cross on the upper side. Mr. G. Fellowes Prynne, the architect who is carrying out the alterations, is now superintending the excavations and carefully preserving everything of interest that turns up. Some supervision is certainly necessary, for on the news of the discovery being

spread, crowds of people made their way from Exeter and the neighbourhood to the spot, and it is already announced that the coin has been carried off and the coffin chipped and carved with initials.

When, some years since, the church of South Weald, in Essex, underwent the process of restoration, so termed, the monumental brasses were removed from their slabs and given away by the then vicar as so much rubbish. The altar tomb of Sir Anthony Browne, Chief Justice of the Common Pleas, and munificent founder of the richly-endowed Grammar School of Brentwood in that parish, was ruthlessly destroyed. Fortunately, some of the brasses—which a list is appended—fell into the hands of Mr. Gawthorp, of the Art Brass Works, Long Acre, who for many years carefully preserved them, until some inquiries were made through the medium of *Notes and Queries*, when he generously gave them to the present incumbent, in whose possession they still remain. They were in 1885 lent by him to Mr. Gawthorp for exhibition at the "Inventories." It is to be hoped that the vicar and officials of the church will cause these relics to be replaced in the church, instead of incurring the danger of being lost through remaining loose in the vicarage. They consist of:—Inscription to Elizabeth Saunders, 1616; small figures of Robert Picakis and Ellen Talbot, 1634; 6 sons and 6 daughters, c. 1460; 7 daughters, c. 1500; 7 sons, c. 1500; lower part of the figure of Lady Browne, 1567; a shield, Browne impaling.

The very pretty little garden in Aldersgate Street, which, through the public spirit of the parochial authorities, has been formed from the disused burial-ground of St. Botolph without Aldersgate and Christ Church, Newgate Street, is bounded on the south by a wall which was obviously never erected to enclose a churchyard. The workmanship and materials are, indeed, of no great age or interest, but the wall is of considerable height and substance, and runs uniformly along more than one burial-ground. It has, moreover, those curious divergences from the straight line which are generally indicative of a history of some sort. The history in this case is not far to seek. A reference to any old map of London will show that the ancient city wall ran in this precise line; and it will further be seen that burial-grounds are frequently to be found on the outer side of the wall. Probably the town ditch, which appears formerly to have surrounded the wall, when it was no longer needed for defence was eagerly seized upon by the several parishes to meet what must have always been a pressing necessity in a crowded city like London. The churchyards of St. Alphage, London Wall, St. Botolph, Bishopsgate Street, and other instances, may readily be cited. But

for some centuries the City wall has ceased to have any relation of importance to London, or even to the City. The City of the Lord Mayor has long embraced not only the area within the walls, but a district without, of irregular shape, extending some distance to the north and westwards from the Fleet Ditch to the bars at the Temple and Holborn. Naturally, therefore, the City wall has been not only officially repaired from time to time in early days, but in more recent times has been patched up, pulled down and rebuilt by private hands as occasion required. Hence the comparatively modern character of what meets the eye in the garden in Aldersgate Street. At the same time the line of the City wall was, so far as is known, never changed from the time of its first erection. It is said that in the cellar of a house on Tower Hill is a piece of the old City wall of unquestionable Roman origin. In all cities each age seems to build upon the *dbris* of its forerunner. It is probable, therefore, that though the wall in the Aldersgate Street garden, as it now stands above ground, is uninteresting enough, the substructure which is now buried, and very likely extends many feet below the surface, may consist, in part at least, of the actual wall erected by Londoners in Roman-British times, when first the City became wealthy enough to tempt marauders and doubts were first cast upon its security. These speculations would perhaps have no practical bearing were the wall in question on private property. But its situation leads one to hope that a thorough examination of its structure may be possible. On the one side, it abuts upon the public garden to which we have alluded. On the other, it but lately formed the back wall of a row of small houses in Bull and Mouth Street. These houses have been purchased and pulled down by the Postmaster-General, who has also stopped up Bull and Mouth Street, and it is understood that a new block of Post Office buildings will occupy the whole area between Angel Street and the Aldersgate Street garden. In digging the foundation for this building, the whole depth of the old wall must be exposed; and it may be assumed that the Government will invite competent persons to examine its structure. If it should prove that a veritable fragment of Roman London has come into the possession of the nation, such steps will no doubt be taken as may, without impairing the utility or interfering with the convenience of the new building, preserve this bit of antiquity in such condition that it may be readily inspected by those interested in such matters. London will thus be enriched; and a visit to the Post Office—rapidly becoming an item in the programme of country cousins—will gain yet another attraction.

Roman remains, said to be in a perfect form, have been discovered on Tockington Court Farm, near

Bristol. Excavations have revealed the foundations of a Roman villa, consisting of five rooms and a portico, with tessellated pavements, the largest piece of the latter being 50 feet by 10 feet without a break, and all in a remarkably fine state of preservation. The design is choice and the colours beautiful. The farm is rich in Roman remains, many relics having been discovered there.

An interesting ceremony took place on the 3rd October last at the College Hall, formerly the Refectory of the Monastery of Worcester, which has been restored. The foundations of the Hall and the crypt beneath it belong to the Norman period, but the superstructure dates from the fourteenth century. The cost of the restoration has been defrayed by the Ecclesiastical Commissioners. The Bishop of Worcester distributed the prizes won in the recent examinations, and gave a sketch of the association of learning with the Monastery and Cathedral of Worcester during the last eleven hundred years. His lordship strongly advocated instruction in Greek and the ancient languages. The Mayor and Corporation attended the ceremony. Earl Beauchamp, Lord-Lieutenant of the county, declared the Hall opened.

About half a mile beyond the Arab gate of Seville has been discovered the necropolis of the ancient city of Carmona. The excavations which have recently been made have resulted in the discovery of a large number of coins, and between the two fields known as the Quarries and the Olive Groves the excavations have brought to light a great many sepulchral chambers, hewn out of the rock, with funeral urns in the sides. The roofs of these sepulchral chambers are some of them vaulted, while others are flat. There are several furnaces either inside or just outside the chambers, and it was in these that the incineration took place, the ashes being placed in black earthenware urns. Among the other objects found was a mirror with a handle, a lamp, a lachrymatory, a bronze statue, several pieces of iron, libation cups, nuts, the remains of a repast, and some pipes communicating with the inside and the outside of the sepulchral chambers.

The church of Upper Winchendon has been reopened, after restoration, under the direction of Mr. W. White, F.S.A. It consists of a nave, north aisle, chancel, and tower. The chancel dates from about the year 1120, but the south wall of the nave must be still older, having some traces of the Norman style. Among these are the remnants of what is believed to have been a lych arch. In the rood-screen are two curious holes, through which, it is supposed, priests were wont to hear the confessions of penitents. In the chancel arch there is apparently the spring of an

earlier arch, with traces of even pre-Norman work. At the east end is a corbel, with a string mitre around it, and on this, it is presumed, a crucifix once stood. The object throughout the restoration being to adhere to the old lines as far as practicable, a large oak cross, about 15 feet high, was to have been erected on this corbel, but the antipathy of several of the congregation to the object, as savouring of "papistry," has led to its being stored away in the belfry. The original piscina and sedilla remain. The vault of the renowned Wharton family is under the east end of the chancel, and was opened in course of the restoration work, for the purpose of reducing the elevation of the chancel floor. The change is a great improvement to the east end of the church. A brass in the floor of the chancel, to Sir John Stodeley, perpetual curate of the parish, and his mother (1556), and another in the north wall near the altar, to John Goodwyn, Esq., and his wife, and bearing a quaint allusion to their eighteen children, are curious features of this portion of the edifice. The floors are re-laid with tiles, except where the seats are placed, wood blocks being here employed. The old paving slabs remain. The ancient altar and rails are re-used, with the necessary alterations. The chancel has been fitted with return stalls in oak against the old screen. Some old oak benches have been re-fixed in their former positions at the west end of the church, but the remainder of the edifice has been fitted with new benches. The gable over the chancel arch has been rebuilt, having been in a very insecure state. No alteration is made in the doors or windows, but the coins and arches have been cleared and whitewashed, and the plastering of the walls has been necessarily renewed, scarcely any of it adhering to the old walls. The three panels of the ancient pulpits have been re-constructed—they are of fourteenth-century date—with raised tracery cut in the solid.

Few of the acquisitions recently made for the South Kensington Museum are as remarkable for their artistic and archaeological interest as a large tapestry wall-hanging lately purchased from the representatives of the late M. Achille Jubinal. It measures 21 feet in length and 13 feet in height, and is covered with figures and buildings. Of the former many are life-size. A post-Homeric episode in the siege of Troy is the subject of the design. On the right we have Trojans, on the left Greeks, and in the centre a conflict between the two. The treatment of the design is Flemish, of the school of Jan Van Eyck. Quaint in its perspective, disproportionate figures, and relative sizes of buildings and personages, the design has fine qualities of draughtsmanship, boldness in conception, and frankness in depicting action and facial expression. The colours have considerably faded; but what remains of them suffices to suggest the sumptuous effect originally produced in the patterned, crimson, blue, and golden fabrics, the glistening armour and flashing jewellery so freely employed for the costumes of the figures. In his description of this wall-hanging, published some fifty years ago, the late M. Jubinal called attention to the absence of plumes from the casques and helmets of the warriors as a mark of early fifteenth-century origin. It was not until after the middle of the

century that plumes came into fashion for knightly panoplies. It is possible that this piece was woven either at Tournai or Arras. It was purchased by M. Jubinal from the castle of the Chevalier de Bayard, near Grenoble, where it is known to have been hanging in 1807. It has consequently been called the Bayard tapestry. From the Low Latin inscriptions on the scrolls, and the names indicating different personages, it is easy to identify the particular episode rendered in the Bayard tapestry with the account given by Quintus Smyrnaeus of the valour of Penthesilea, Queen of the Amazons, in coming to the assistance of the besieged Trojans. To the left of the hanging is a group consisting of "Roy Prias" wearing a high-crowned turban, and greeting Penthesilea, who, arrayed as a knight in armour, is kneeling before him. One of the twelve maidens who accompanied Penthesilea bears her train; and at the back a company of mounted knights is issuing from beneath the gateway. On the right of the tapestry is a tent within which stands the youthful "Pirus" in resplendent armour, around whose waist Ajax Telamon is fastening the buckle of his sword-belt. The main and central portion of the tapestry is busy with the fight of Trojans and Greeks. At the back are to be seen Polydamas, Ajax Telamon, and Philomenes engaged in a deadly combat amid a *mélée* of spearmen and swordsmen. Lower down towards the flowery foreground is Penthesilea on a richly caparisoned palfrey. With uplifted sword she threatens one of her many victims in the fray, which subsequently terminated in her death at the hands of Achilles. A varied and instructive interest thus attaches to this Bayard tapestry.

Mr. T. G. Jackson has written to the *Building News* concerning the church of St. Stephen's, Walbrook, as follows: "A few months ago this exquisite little church, Wren's acknowledged masterpiece, was perfect as it came from his hand. It retained its original dark oak pewing carved with emblems of civic companies; its communion-table, rails, and reredos; its lofty pulpits overshadowed with a sumptuous sounding-board; its exquisitely carved font-cover; and the west end was filled by an imposing loft and organ-case, of the same rich, dark oak as the rest, splendid with gilt pipes, cherub-musicians, scrolls and wreaths, and all the picturesque adornments proper to such structures. How much of this now remains I do not know, but the organ-case and loft are gone; the pews are cut down to suit the fashion of the day; the bases of the columns which were stilted to the original level of the pews now stand exposed and naked, much apparently to the surprise of the building committee, who do not know what to do with them, and who will, probably, next find out that the pulpit is too high, and will cut it down to their own standard; and thus this invaluable example of a noble style and a great master has been wantonly sacrificed to the genius of parochial importance."

Implements of jade are occasionally found along the coast of British Columbia and Alaska, extending to a considerable distance inland, especially along the lower parts of the Fraser and Thompson rivers. It has long been matter of dispute whether the jade of

these implements was of local origin, or had been transported from Asiatic sources. Dr. G. M. Dawson, of the Geological Survey of Canada, has contributed to the *Canadian Record of Science* a paper in which he adduces evidence to prove that the material was worked in the locality, boulders of jade having been found in the valley of the Fraser, although the mineral is not yet known to occur *in situ* in British Columbia. Dr. A. B. Meyer, of Dresden, some time ago called attention to the occurrence of jade in Alaska as evidence that the American implements were not necessarily worked from a mineral of Asiatic origin.

The Court of Common Council, after an animated discussion, has resolved to give the materials of old Temple Bar to Sir H. B. Meux, to be erected at the entrance of Theobald's Park, Cheshunt.

An inscribed rock has lately been found about 100 yards distant from the well-known Shahbaz Garhic rock, one of the five famous rocks which bear inscribed on them the edicts of King Asoka. The upper corner of the inscription was lately laid bare by heavy rain eroding the hillside; and having been noticed by some villagers and reported to the civil authorities, steps were taken to excavate the face of the stone, which was found to bear an inscription written in the same character as that found on the well-known rock close by. The inscription is about 5 feet long by 3 feet wide, and it is in an excellent state of preservation, and consists of about ten lines of writing. These are the earliest Indian inscriptions which have yet been discovered, the edicts having been promulgated about 224 B.C. Some are written on rocks, and some on pillars, and some in caves. The five rock inscriptions are (1) the Shahbaz Garhic, in Eusufsaï; (2), near Khalsa, on the Jumna; (3), at Girwar, in Kathiawar; (4), at Dhauh, in Katak; (5), at Jangadar, near Behampore. These inscriptions all consist of the same edict, though written in different characters. In addition there are both at Dhauh and Jangadar two separate edicts similar to each other. And also at Sahasraurain near Putna, at Rupnath, near Jabulpur, and at Bairat near Jeypore, one other edict is repeated. One or two other rock inscriptions have also been discovered, but of rather later date. The cave inscriptions of Asoka are seventeen in number, and the inscribed pillars number six, the best of them being the two at Delhi, viz., Ferozshah's "lat," outside the Delhi Gate, and the Mirat Pillar on the Delhi Bridge, both of which were brought to Delhi by Ferozshah. The inscription on the newly discovered stone is being deciphered from impressions and photographs, and it will be interesting to know what, if any, further information it will contribute to our scanty knowledge of the times of the first Buddhist king.

"A Descriptive Catalogue of the engraved Works of W. Faithorne" will shortly be published by Mr. Quaritch. The compiler is Mr. Louis Fagan, of the British Museum, who has added a memoir of the engraver to the catalogues of his works, which are alphabetically and chronologically arranged, and sections devoted to title-pages, illustrations, playing-cards, maps, drawings, and portraits. It is published by subscription.

Isabella M. Holmes, honorary secretary of the Metropolitan Public Gardens Association, communicates to the *Times* the following unique fact. In 1780 the church of St. Christopher-le-Stocks was pulled down for the enlargement of the Bank of England. Its small adjoining churchyard was left open, and is now known as the Bank Garden; but it is stated that the mould for the burial-ground of Whitfield's Tabernacle (then being made) was brought from this churchyard, "by which the consecration fees were saved." The writer's authority is John Timbs, writing in 1855. This, if true, makes it a curious point whether the graveyard in Tottenham Court Road may not be considered consecrated, in which case the Bishop of London could, without more ado, put a stop to the nuisance of the fair.

The excavations at Strata Florida Abbey will be recommenced in a short time. A considerable sum is required for the completion of the work. The Marquis of Bute has contributed £21 towards the excavation fund.

Mr. Bernard Quaritch has just published *Critical and Bibliographical Notes on Early Spanish Music*, by Juan F. Riaño. The work includes a catalogue of manuscripts containing musical annotations written between the tenth and the sixteenth centuries, in all seventy-three in number; a list of more than seventy printed works on music, both theoretical and practical; and a number of appendices, containing much valuable miscellaneous information. The work is illustrated with more than sixty facsimiles from the manuscripts referred to in the text. We have, of course, no means of testing the accuracy of the author's statements, but we can bear witness to the large amount of research which the volume shows. To students of an obscure portion of musical history the book will be of much interest, as many of the subjects with which it deals have scarcely been touched by other writers.

The *Building News* says that St. Anselm's Chapel Canterbury Cathedral, is to be restored at the cost of Canon Holland.

The Minister of Public Works has lately addressed a report to the Egyptian Council of Ministers of sufficient importance to demand immediate consideration from that body. The report calls attention to the peril in which the Boulaq Museum stands, from the contiguity of certain buildings belonging to the Daira of Gelal Pasha; these are comprised in a piece of ground adjoining the museum on the north side. The Minister points out that the danger is two-fold: from fire and robbers, the latter owing to the facilities afforded by the terraces of the building to gain access to the museum. The *Athenaeum* holds that the museum should be isolated. It is at present clear on the south side, the garden front; the east and west face towards the street and the Nile. The report suggests that the Daira ground should be purchased and assigned to the museum. The superficies of this plot is about 2,680 square metres, and to obtain the necessary funds the Minister proposes that permission be given to sell a piece of ground in the neighbourhood belonging to the museum. As to

the propriety of the latter proposal we can offer no opinion, but respecting the acquisition of the Daira ground and the isolation of the museum, there can be no doubt that these objects should be accomplished without delay. Another question, still more grave, has long arrested the attention of those interested in the art of ancient Egypt, namely, whether the museum should be retained on its present site. The Nile has once invaded its halls ; and even if it should do so again, the proximity to the river involves a constant humidity that has already done serious damage to the more tender and fragile objects of the collection. It is easy to see how such an unfortunate position was originally chosen, on account of the saving of expense in the transport of colossal granite statues and sarcophagi, which can there without difficulty be landed from ships or steamers at the grounds of the museum. But there are other and less bulky objects, of equal or greater importance, that could very readily be removed to some locality in the city of Cairo, out of the reach of damp, and far more accessible to students and visitors, none of whom reside at Boulaq. As at present constituted the museum is of the smallest service to students, and is simply bewildering to the general visitor. Indeed, a distinguished Egyptologist and conservator of a Continental museum makes no secret of his opinion, that in the interest of science it would be most desirable to remove the larger portion of the collection to London, where it would receive adequate presentation and systematic classification in the galleries of the British Museum.

An Antiquarian Society and a Shakespeare Club have been started at Toynbee Hall, Whitechapel, in connection with the University Extension Society.

Mr. W. Niven, who recently visited the ruins of St. Botolph's Priory Church, Colchester, writes to the *Athenaeum* to say that of the two terms mentioned in connection with what is now, or has been lately, proceeding there, "preservation" and "restoration," the latter disclaimed term appeared to be the more applicable. The recent work has been made to look as unlike recent work, and as much like the old work, as possible ; so much so that it is difficult to distinguish between them. In a ruin of which the interest mainly consists in the mode in which certain materials were used in constructing the walls, this is not, surely, true "preservation."

The very fine old Parish Church of Boxford, dedicated to St. Mary, and enriched with fine fourteenth-century work, has for some time been under restoration. In 1868 £200 was spent upon it, and again in 1875. There was formerly a flat-ceiled roof to the chancel, but this has been taken down and a new carved one put up of the waggon shape, and neatly panelled. New floors have been laid to the chancel, side-chapels, and nave ; the sanctuary floor has been raised, and a new altar placed at the west end. There are several beautifully-carved niches, with canopies, at the east end of the south chapel, with frescoes on the walls, one being a representation of King Edmund the Martyr. There are few traces of a Doom painting in its usual position over the chancel arch, and of a text on the north wall.

The San Francisco correspondent of the *Vossische Zeitung* writes on the 14th June : "There is here a collection of newly-found mummies, forming one of the most remarkable discoveries ever made in America. The mummies differ from Egyptian ones in that they are generally quite naked, only a few having a loose covering, and they have evidently undergone no process of embalming. The flesh is so thoroughly dried that it resembles parchment, and the corpses are very light. The mummies were found by a party of American goldseekers in one of the numerous branches of the Sierra Madre Mountains, near the Gila, in Arizona. One day the goldseekers discovered a cave, the entrance to which was closed with a kind of cement very hard to break. Forcing an entrance, the men found themselves in a kind of antechamber, 30 feet long, hewn out of the living rock. This led into a large hall, in which were lying a number of dried-up corpses. The discoverers at once set to work to transport the mummies to the nearest railway station, in spite of the opposition of the Apache Indians, who soon heard of the discovery, and considered the remains to be those of their gods. All the mummies were safely removed to San Francisco, where they excite great interest in scientific circles. The most remarkable among them is that of a mother with her child, which lie together in a loose covering. Another is the corpse of a woman with small feet, arched insteps, long, shapely hands, and the whole figure of a different type from that of the modern Indians. The hair of this mummy is long, black, and not in the least spoiled. The remains of its covering is of a blue colour, and quite different in material from the cloth that covers other mummies. Very interesting is the mummy of a man in a sitting posture. It is of gigantic proportions, with broad and powerful chest. The grisly parts of the ears and nose are quite recognisable, and the head is covered with bushy black hair. The eyebrows are sharply defined, and the dry and hard tongue protrudes between the teeth. The members of the Scientific Society of San Francisco unanimously believe these mummies to be those of the ancient Aztecs. The corpses of the women and of a young man show all the physical peculiarities said to have distinguished that once numerous race. The high cheek-bones and slanting eyes, thick skin, and black hair, and general size (about 5 feet 3 inches) all agree. The mummies will shortly be forwarded to the Eastern States."

A curious little old book, called *The Protestant's Crumbs of Comfort*, was found some months ago, hidden away in the lath and plaster of a ceiling in Colchester, where alterations of some old premises were going on. The work bears date December 16, 1689, the author being the Reverend George Walker, a member of the Church Militant, who fought lustily against James II. at the siege of Londonderry in that year, and who died July 1, 1690, at the Boyne. It consists of Prayers, Psalms, and Meditations for every day, and for special occasions ; and amongst its other quaint contents are an account of the Papist persecutions in Ireland, and a remarkable notice of some prophecies and their strange fulfilment. The prophet was the famous Archbishop Usher, the chronologist, who fixed the date of the Creation as on

a Friday, about four o'clock in the afternoon. The book has been well thumbed in its day, and appears to have been re-bound, though possibly in the original covers.

Mr. Greville Chester, when visiting Asia a short time since, met with a quadrangular haematite seal, which had been found near Tarsus. The seal approaches the cubical form, and is engraved on five sides. It has been regarded as "Hittite," on account of certain characteristics which it presents. Conspicuous among these is the fact that on the several faces of the seal there are figures with turned-up toes, or "Hittite boots," to use an expression employed by Professor Sayce. Another characteristic is the presence of figures with that quasi-Mongolian appendage, the pigtail, one of these being apparently an eagle-headed deity. The same appendage is to be seen on some of the monuments which the British Museum obtained from the reputed site of Carchemish; and Khita warriors are depicted as similarly adorned on the Egyptian painting of Abu-Simbel. Though the new seal is probably less ancient than the circular seal in the British Museum from Yuzgat, in Asia Minor, it exhibits several features of similarity. There is, however, a remarkable difference in the mystical character which the scenes depicted on the new seal apparently present. On the base or principal face of the seal there are, within a border of interlaced pattern, two figures, of which one, seated, has in his hand what appears to be some flower or vegetable production with a long root; while another, standing, presents a trident-like object, which, perhaps, also is to be looked upon as related to the vegetable kingdom. This trident-like object occurs again on another face of the seal, under conditions which point to its being an object of worship. There occurs besides a trident of more ordinary form. The trident is manifestly an example of three being united into one. Another object on the seal of similar purport is the equilateral triangle, which occurs both alone and as forming part of some most curious figures wearing the Hittite boots. These figures are manifestly symbolical, but it is not easy to give an exact idea of them by description alone. On the Yuzgat seal, too, there are a number of equilateral triangles which, on a first view, seem unimportant. But the evidence of the new seal tends to show, although these triangles were introduced to fill up vacant spaces, and do not seem to affect the meaning intended to be conveyed, yet that the triangles were depicted as sacred or mystical objects, thus bringing the two seals into apparent connection with Indian symbolism. It has been suggested also that this use of the triangle, together with other numerical indications, on the new seal may possibly point to some relation with Pythagoreanism—a system which, indeed, in ancient times was looked upon as closely connected with the East.

Hilmarton, Wilts.—"An Exhibition and Show of Things Curious, Old-fashioned, and Interesting" was held in this village by the exertions of the Rev. C. V. Goddard, and the assistance of friends far and near, on Sept. 8th and 9th. The collection filled large room, and contained articles both of beauty and of interest. Specimens of English coins, from earliest British down to Jubilee money, came from the col-

lection of Rev. E. H. Goddard, of Clyffe. F. H. Goldney, Esq., furnished a gold medal of George III's Jubilee, and a "screw dollar" containing a miniature. Medals of the Queen's coronation, opening of Royal and Coal Exchanges, lent by G. R. Bryant, Esq., Calne; silver medal of Seven Bishops, 1688, exhibiting the Church upheld by the Divine Arm, though her enemies ply both pick and spade, by H. N. Goddard, Esq., of Clyffe Manor—who also sent several watches: one of silver, seventeenth-century, oval in shape, and having only one hand, engraved with the birth at Bethlehem and arrival of the Magi; another of gold, eighteenth-century, having a sunk circle on the back, in which are exhibited Adam and Eve with a small serpent wriggling continually round and round. Several good specimens of English enamel boxes, and of shagreen work; bloodstone scissors-case; bodkin-case, French Revolution period, of most wonderful polish; ancient brazen spoon of "Apostle" shape from Clyffe Manor; Clog almanack belonging to Rev. E. C. Awdry, and heavy beadwork, of Solomon in a wig, of Restoration period; several embroidered silk dresses of eighteenth century; piano of 1776; ancient Roman and Egyptian curios; Italian lamps; scaldina and tray of brass, the latter engraved with "Venice presenting gifts to Doge Foscari." These few items will give an idea of what a store of curios may be gathered from the houses of every class in a country neighbourhood.

Excavations have been made in the first chapel in the south transept of Peterborough Cathedral, to discover if there ever existed an apsidal end to the Saxon chancel. The excavation was not successful, and the belief has been formed that there was merely a square end to the chancel. Other excavations are being arranged.

The authorities have begun to pull down the modern buildings connecting the Registrar's apartment of the Charterhouse with the old tank or conduit, and were proceeding to pull down the tank also, to make way, it is said, for a new billiard-room for the Registrar. Owing to remonstrances from without, the demolition of the tank has been abandoned after the upper story, or cistern proper, has been destroyed. The lead lining was taken out some years ago, and the cistern has since been occupied as part of the dwelling. The *Athenaeum* says this old tank was probably built by the first governors of the hospital. The style of work is Jacobean, the bricks are two inches thick, and laid in old English bond. The part remaining at this moment is the round-headed cross vault on four heavy square piers which supported the cistern. The sides were enclosed at some early time; it is, therefore, a solid vaulted chamber very fit for a larder or cellar. It would seem as if something more akin to dislike than indifference to local traditions prevails at the Charterhouse when no effort was made to include this substantial and not useless part of the ancient establishment in the plan of the new structure. As a piece of architecture it is no ways remarkable. There is nothing in it which could not be shown, and in a sense preserved, by a careful drawing; but it is an actual piece of the ancient hospital. It is shown as an isolated square building, with pyramidal lead roof, in

the old views given by Strype and others, and on the still older plans its position is plainly marked. It may, indeed, have taken the place of "the cistern by the kitchen door" of the oldest plan of all, the parchment of the fifteenth century. The complete demolition has been stopped. If the Registrar finds its continued existence a hindrance to his comfort, those who do not wish to have the ancient buildings of the Charterhouse destroyed piecemeal will rejoice that at least some part is left to testify to the truth of a long tradition.

The ancient and venerable parish church of St. Bartholomew, at Welby, has just received a beautiful addition in the shape of an oaken reredos, exquisitely carved in the Early Perpendicular style. It has been designed by Mr. R. L. Withers, F.R.I.B.A., and is the handiwork of Mr. Harry Hems.

Fasten E'en was observed at Jedburgh and Melrose by the customary ball-play. This annual festival has been in vogue since pre-Restoration times in most of the Border towns and villages, and before the union of the kingdoms often formed an excuse for a large gathering of men near the March previous to their making a nocturnal foray into England. At Melrose, where the game is played in the streets, all windows are barricaded, and business is suspended.

In the Faubourg St. Jean, Autun, a Roman mosaic, measuring twenty-five mètres superficial, has been discovered. It was sixty centimètres below the surface of kitchen garden, near the ancient ramparts of the city, and a field entitled Gaillon, belonging to the Hospice d'Autun.

Mr. Titus Lewis, F.S.A., of St. Quintan's, Llanblethian, well known for the great interest he took in Welsh literature and antiquities, died a few days ago, in his sixty-sixth year.

Some excitement has been caused at Isleworth by the discovery of skeletons near the old flour-mill not far from Isleworth Eyt, so well known to anglers. It appears that the Heston and Isleworth Local Board, and some private owners of property, principally the projector of a new granary adjoining the flour-mill, have been making deep excavations, and whilst the excavations at Manor Mills were in progress on Saturday it was found that persons had been interred three feet from the ground on the space intervening between the Manor Mills and Phoenix Terrace next adjoining. According to local rumour and tradition a number of persons mysteriously disappeared here 150 years ago on ground now occupied by Whyman's Thames wicker-basket manufactory.



Meetings of Antiquarian Societies.

Warwickshire Field Club.—August 27.—The members met at Atherstone. The party, after visiting the church of St. Mary at Merevale, divided, the geological section visiting the quarries in the Park, exposing fossiliferous Cambrian (lower Silurian) shales; then to Baxterley Colliery, where the coal-measures and overlying red rocks are exposed. Thence

to Mawbournes and Purley Park, where similar Silurian shales and trap are exposed; and further on to Reservoir Quarry with quartzite and breccia below; and the Midland Quarry showing quartzite and trap. The archaeological party stayed some considerable time at Merevale, and examined the church, which was originally a chapel erected at the gates of the Abbey of Merevale for holding early services for the labourers and other servants connected with the monastery. The building, apparently erected in the reign of Henry III. or Edward I., originally consisted of nave and aisles, with arcades of two arches on either side, and a chancel. The chancel has disappeared and the aisles have been demolished, so that nothing remains of the ancient structure but the nave, which forms a sort of ante-chapel to the present church, the main portion of which, now constituting the chancel, has a north aisle of late fifteenth-century date and south aisle of the fourteenth century. The east window is fitted with stained glass removed from the conventional church. There is a portion of a Jesse window, and in the north aisle some glass of the fifteenth century; of this date also is the very curious loft or gallery, probably an organ loft. There are some monuments removed hither from the abbey, among those now to be seen being brasses of a knight and lady, *temp.* Henry VI., monuments to the Stratford and Dugdale families; there is also a handsome altar tomb of alabaster with recumbent figures, conjectured by Mr. M. H. Bloxham to represent John Handewell, sheriff or bailiff of Coventry, and Alice his wife, to whom there was an inscription in a north window. There are also the remains of a figure in chain armour, covered with a long sleeveless surcoat, with a long heart-shaped shield on left arm. This effigy is supposed to represent William Ferrers, Earl Derby, who died in 1254. A visit was then paid to the ruins of the abbey, which was founded in 1149 by Robert, Earl Ferrers, grandson of Henry de Ferrers, one of the followers of the Conqueror, and is dedicated to the Virgin, according to the invariable custom of the Cistercian Order. The building originally consisted of a cruciform church, with rather short choir, south of which was a cloister court, surrounded by the conventional apartments or offices. The church measured 230 feet by 54 feet. Considerable portions of the walls on the north and east are still existing. On the south side of the cloister court stood the refectory, a noble room of the fourteenth century, much of which, with a portion of the pulpit, still remains, together with the monks' lavatory near the entrance. Westward of the abbey, at a distance of 200 yards, stood the gatehouse, which has wholly disappeared. Witherley Church was afterwards visited, and thence the party proceeded to inspect Mancetter Church. This edifice, supposed to stand on the site of a Roman camp, is of stone in Decorated style, originally erected by Wakeline de Mancestre, in the reign of Henry II., and appropriated in the reign of Henry VI. to the Abbey of Merevale. The building consists of chancel, nave, south aisle with porch, and an embattled western tower with five bells. The chancel has a stained glass window of ancient date, supposed to have been transferred from Merevale. Near the church are the remains, now incorporated in a village inn, of a guild-house, erected by John Riggeley, Abbot of Merevale, in 37 Henry VI.

Aberdeen Philosophical Society.—This society made its annual excursion in June last. Starting by the 10:10 train, the society reached Banff by noon, where they were joined by several visitors, including Mr. Ramsay, editor of the *Banffshire Journal*; Dr. Milne, King-Edward; Rev. James Davidson, Episcopal clergyman; Rev. Aeneas Chisholm, Roman Catholic clergyman; and Dr. Manson. The company visited Duff House, where they admired the many pictures of Murillo, Velasquez, Sir Godfrey Kneller, Sir Joshua Reynolds, and other great artists. The party then drove through the woods to the Bridge of Alvah and inspected the various monuments of interest in the town of Banff, including the Castle; the birthplace of Archbishop Sharpe; the remains of the old church and the memorial tablets of Provost Douglas, 1658, Leslie, 1720; and the remains of the Carmelite Monastery. The company dined in the Fife Arms, under the chairmanship of Rev. J. M. Danson, the croupier being Mr. A. D. Milne.

Lancashire and Cheshire Antiquarian Society.—September 9.—The members held a meeting in the new Museum Buildings at Owens College, to inspect the valuable collection of Lancashire and Cheshire stone implements, got together by Mr. Geo. C. Yates, F.S.A., for the British Association meeting. Mr. Yates read a paper describing the different kinds of implements exhibited, amongst which were stone celts, perforated hammers, mauls, arrow-heads, flakes, scrapers, etc. He also exhibited modern stone implements from his collection, showing the different modes of hafting by modern savages. Mr. Yates particularly called the attention of the members to several interesting stone implements, found in Corporation Street and Oxford Street, Manchester, Greenheys Field, Crumpsall, etc. Some of these implements it is intended to have photographed, and Mr. Yates intends to make a record of all Lancashire and Cheshire "finds," which will be printed in this year's volume of the Antiquarian Society. At the last meeting of the society, the Rev. W. H. Burns exhibited a perforated stone hammer 3 inches by 5 inches, found in 1870 by a labourer for a contractor in Corporation Street, Manchester, in digging through a gravel bed at a depth of 25 feet below the surface, whilst excavating for the foundations of some new buildings near the Trevelyan Hotel. The implement is similar in shape to one illustrated by Dr. John Evans, number 158 in his book on "Stone Implements," and which was found at Sutton, near Woodbridge. This is perhaps one of the most important "finds" of the kind in Manchester, and it is now on view in the exhibition of local stone implements in connection with the British Association meeting at the Owens College, Manchester.

Historic Society of Lancashire and Cheshire.—Mr. J. P. Rylands, F.S.A., read a paper on Cheshire and Lancashire churches.—In most of the Cheshire, and in many of the Lancashire churches, before the great rebellion, there existed many very beautiful windows of painted glass, containing figures of the local gentry and their wives, with their shields of arms and monumental inscriptions. During the civil war of the great rebellion, the Puritans broke these windows and defaced the monuments. In the reign of Queen Elizabeth, in the years 1580 and 1592, one Thomas Chaloner took

notes of the arms in the Lymm Church windows, and these notes, which consist of descriptions and rude drawings, are preserved among the Harleian manuscripts in the British Museum. The coats of arms described are those of the Warburtons, of Arley; of the family of Limme, of Lymm, anciently borne by the West Hill branch of the Leghs, of High Legh; of the Grosvenors, of Eaton, near Chester; of the family of Savage; of Hawarden, of Woolston, near Warrington; of Hockenhull, of Prenton, in Wirral Hundred. In describing the second of these coats of arms, allusion is made to one Sir Thomas Danvers, who distinguished himself at the battle of Crecy, in the year 1346, by relieving the standard of Edward the Black Prince when he was hard pressed by the enemy, and taking prisoner the Count de Tankerville, chamberlain to the French King. The name Danvers we find later on corrupted into Daniels. This Sir Thomas Danvers lived at Bradley Hall, near Lymm. The present Bradley Hall is a farmhouse erected during the last fifty years, but is interesting, as it stands upon the site of the house to which Sir Thomas retired after the battle of Crecy, and where he probably died. The moat which still all but surrounds Bradley Hall is in a wonderful state of preservation.

Craven Naturalists' Association.—Sept. 16.—A party of members of this association had an excursion to Malham Tarn (by invitation of the President, Mr. W. Morrison, M.P.). The party proceeded to Giggleswick by train, inspected the Natural History Museum there, including a large number of bones, pottery, and implements from the Victoria Cave. The ebbing and flowing well was visited, and the party afterwards proceeded to the Victoria Cave, which has become so interesting from the discovery therein of bones of the hyena, fox, brown bear, grizzly bear, hippopotamus, rhinoceros, bos primigenius, elephant, red deer, etc., which point to the fact that these animals have roamed about Craven at periods represented by the beds wherein they are found.—Mr. Morrison afterwards addressed the company. He said: "In every science there is a general advance all along the line; each man follows his own narrow track, not advancing far himself; still the advance is steady and continuous. The growing difficulty is not to find observers of facts, but men who can compare, digest, and systematize the growing wealth of mere knowledge. But observers are still needed to record facts, and herein lies the advantage of such associations as our own. It must be an encouragement to each worker to feel that he is associated with others who will sympathize with his work, and that any discovery of value can be submitted to those who will appreciate it and see that it is recorded. Some years ago there was a proposal that a complete history of our great county should be written, and it was proposed that the first step should be to encourage the writing of monographs on the history of each parish. So, too, in each science many humble observers may collect facts, which can be partly systematized by associations; these results added to those of others will build up the science, correct errors, test theories. Each may hope to do something to enlarge our knowledge of, and thus increase our command over, nature. Now our district is

singularly well suited for such an association. I do not know that we have any special peculiarity in our fauna, unless it be that about one in fifteen of the trout caught in Malham Tarn have one operculum, or the two opercula, or gill cover, defective. This occurs also in a lake in Wales. No explanation has been found. But this parish, and those adjoining it, are classic ground to the botanist. We are rich in plants found in abundance here, but rare elsewhere. Then few districts are so interesting to the geologist. We cannot, as at Lulworth Cove, show a dozen distinct strata in a dozen yards. But consider how much we can see from this very place. This house is between the northern and southern branch of the great Craven Fault. The Scars behind rise steeply from the Silurian rocks, on which rests Malham Tarn. This we know from the outcrop of the Silurian rocks east and west of the Tarn. No doubt the Glacier from Fountains Fell hollowed out a shallow depression (for the natural depth of the Tarn before the embankment was made at the foot was but 9 feet), which forms the Tarn ; to the south and east are the old moraines, now used as gravel and sand pits. We can see how the ground dips down at the Main Fault at Malham Cove ; at the south-west a good eye can detect in a clear light the line of the fault by the bluer green of the grass on the millstone grit of Kirkby Fell, as contrasted with the bright green of the grass on the mountain limestone on Grisedale's pasture. Then on the slope of Fountains Fell we meet the Yoredale Rocks. But go where you will in Craven you can never go far without coming on some interesting geological fact. Compare our position with that, say, of the geologist in the United States, who may have to travel over hundreds of miles to get to another stratum, and consequent change in the prevalent flora. We have all the variety which comes from varying rocks and differences of elevation." Mr. Morrison concluded with a protest against the havoc made by collectors among the rarer fauna and flora. Darwin, in his work on insectivorous plants, mentioned a common in Surrey on which the sundew grew plentifully. The London costermongers swooped down upon it like birds of prey, exterminating it to sell in London. The fault lay not so much with them as with the stupid people who bought the sundews with the wild notion that they would grow in London. So, too, our mountain ferns are being exterminated by dealers who carry them off wholesale to the great town to languish and die in ferneries. Cannot we do something to stop a practice which bids fair to rob the country of so great a source of pleasure as the search for rare plants? We have a society for the protection of ancient buildings from town councils, parsons, and architects ; we need another to protect our fauna and flora from dealers and schoolmasters and field naturalists' clubs.

Newcastle Society of Antiquaries.—Sept. 29.—The monthly meeting of the Society was held at the Old Castle. The Rev. Dr. J. C. Bruce presided, and there was a good attendance of members.—Mr. T. W. U. Robinson, of Hardwick Hall, exhibited several objects of great antiquarian value which he himself had brought from Egypt, and which, not wishing to keep, he desired to present to the society. One or two of them, he said, were very

rare.—A vote of thanks to Mr. Robinson was carried with acclamation.—Mr. Heslop presented a porcelain head, found at Corbridge.—Mr. W. L. S. Charlton presented a piece of lead, found at Corbridge, which had been used by the Romans for the purpose of fastening the square stones of the bridge together.—The Rev. Canon Franklin exhibited models of the Viking ship from Gokstad, now preserved in the Christiania Museum, and the church at Bogund, Norway.—A hearty vote of thanks having been given to Canon Franklin, the following papers were read : "Note on an Inscribed Roman *Patera* of Bronze from South Shields," by Professor E. Huebner, in a letter to Mr. R. Blair, secretary ; "The Goldsmiths' Company of Newcastle," by the Rev. J. R. Boyle ; and "On a Roman Inscription at Clilburn," by Professor Huebner. The Newcastle antiquaries have held six country meetings during the summer. At their last excursion they proceeded to a curious hill near Stocksfield Station, known in the neighbourhood as the Round Hill. The younger visitors and one or two of the older were bold enough to climb the hill ; the rest prudently went round it. On the top of the hill is a substantial-looking tombstone, which immediately attracted the attention of the watchful antiquaries. Unfortunately, the inscription was all too legible ; it turned out that the tombstone covered the carcass of "Edward Lee's dog." After this disappointment, the Rev. Anthony Johnson, who conducted the visitors, revived their spirits by offering to read a paper on the history of Bywell. The offer was accepted, and the party gathered for this purpose under the shade of a tree at the foot of the hill, where the only objection was that the sheep had been there before. Here Mr. Johnson read a paper on "The History of the Town and Barony of Bywell." He suggested that the Round Hill was the old Mote Hill of the barony, and said that Dr. Bruce agreed with him. The hill, he thought, was first an ancient British camp, afterwards used as a meeting-place for the leet. From the *Testa de Nevill* it appeared that the barons of Bywell held their lands direct from the king *in capite*, and that Bywell was the barony of the Balliols of Scotland. In 1472 it was held by Ralph de Nevill, the builder of Bywell Castle. It passed into the hands of the Fenwicks of Fenwick Tower, and was afterwards purchased by Mr. Thomas Wentworth Beaumont for £145,000. Mr. Johnson quoted an interesting account of old Bywell from the survey taken by Edward Hall and William Homberston, royal commissioners, in 1569. The visitors proceeded to Bywell Castle, where they were hospitably entertained by Mr. John Hall of Bywell Castle, and several members of the company were shown over the building by Mr. Mein. The visitors inspected the sister-churches of Bywell St. Peter and Bywell St. Andrew. At St. Peter's Mr. Johnson read a second paper, in which he alluded to the tradition that two wealthy sisters had quarrelled on a question of precedence, and each had built a church out of spite. Unfortunately, he said, the same story was given as an explanation of many other places where churches stood side by side, in Coventry, Essex, Norfolk, Cambridge, and other parts. St. Peter's was called the Black Church, having belonged to the order of Black Monks. St. Andrew's, which belonged to the White Monks of Blanchland, was called the White Church.—Mr. C C

Hodges gave a history of the two churches, and was of opinion that the earliest parts belonged to the later Saxon period. He alluded to the importance of the town of Bywell in earlier times as a centre for the manufacture of swords and armour. In St. Andrew's Church he also gave an account of the history of the building. The visitors then occupied themselves in taking photographs, climbing to the top of the tower, examining the bells, and in other ways. While the members were thus occupied, Mr. C. C. Hodges was prevailed upon to read another paper, but as he did not pitch his voice so as to be heard at the top of the tower, his explanations were lost to many. His remarks, however, were applauded by those who heard them. After being again entertained by Mr. John Hall at the Castle, the visitors returned to Newcastle by various trains.

Wiltshire Archaeological and Natural History Society.—Annual meeting at Salisbury in conjunction with the Royal Archaeological Institute, which opened on August 2. The Bishop, as chairman of the annual meeting, expressed his great desire to set on foot the collection of materials for a County History, as is now being done by the Lincoln Society. A committee was appointed to draw up an account of (1) what has been done by the society or by individuals to carry out the object of its foundation; (2) what remains to be done, or requires doing at once; (3) to draw up a scheme or method for the collection of materials. The church-plate return is almost completed, and will prove a valuable work. Brasses and bells were dealt with, not completely, however, some years ago. The society also appointed two of its members to confer with the great societies on the means to be suggested for the preservation of Stonehenge. The foundations of Mere Castle, Wilts, are being excavated under direction of Lieutenant-General Pitt Rivers.

Cambrian Archaeological Association.—This association has held its annual gathering this year in the Vale of Clwyd, having Denbigh for its headquarters. The members assembled on the 22nd August, when excursions were made to the ruins of Denbigh Castle, the Burgeo's tower and walls, the ancient church of St. Hilary, and Leicester's Church. An inspection was afterwards made of the museum newly fitted up in connection with the association. The collection of historic relics and old manuscripts is one of the largest and most valuable ever witnessed in the Principality. Papers were read on Welsh huts, dwellings, and other subjects.—Lieutenant-Colonel Mainwaring presided, and Mr. Stephen Williams gave an interesting account of his recent explorations at Strata Florida Abbey.—The Rev. Trevor Owen, the general secretary, in presenting his report, said that at the last annual meeting a small grant was made to Mr. Stephen Williams, of Rhayader, to trace out the ground-plan of the abbey church at Strata Florida, and the results of his well-directed explorations had already been so encouraging that it was proposed that the association should undertake the entire clearing out of this, the greatest abbey in Wales.—The following day excursions were made to Bodfari, where the ancient church and the camp were visited, together with the Caegwyn and Ffynnon Beuno Caves, Tremerchion Church, St. Beuno's College, and Dysert

Castle, and the old church. Drives were afterwards taken to Rhuddlan Castle, the priory, and church. The parties were conducted over the various objects of antiquity by Lieutenant-Colonel Mainwaring, Colonel Mesham, and Major Lloyd Williams. Descriptive accounts were also given by the Dean of St. Asaph, the Archdeacon of Montgomery, the Rev. Trevor Owen, and others. Excursions were next day made to Ruthin and Llanfair, where the members were received by Colonel Cornwallis West, M.P., Lord-Lieutenant of Denbighshire, and were conducted over Ruthin Castle and the old church. Visits were also paid to the churches of Llanrhudd and Llanfair, both of which contain ancient family monuments. In the evening a series of papers were read before the members of the association at Denbigh.



Reviews.

Calendar of the Tavistock Parish Records. By R. N. WORTH. (No publisher, 1887.) 8vo., pp. viii, 135.

Parish records are amongst the most valuable sources of history. Those of Tavistock here printed begin in 1385 and continue to 1765, thus affording something like 400 years of continuous life. The "deeds and associated documents" are most valuable, and give us notes on field-names, land transfers, land customs, and modes of tenure, which those interested in this branch of history will know how to value and to use. In a deed of 1560, we meet with the "eight men," we suppose parallels to the "sixteens," "twelves," and "twenty-fours" to be met with in other parts of the country. In matters of family history these documents are also of great value. The churchwardens' accounts give us information on prices of labour which are valuable, and occasionally humorous: "Item paid John Drake the scholomaster, for teaching in the Grammer Scole this yere xiij*l*. Item paide to Nicholas Watts for wages for teachinge of the littell children this yere iiiij*l*;" are instructive items, and once more send us back to the time of a famous English hero. We are indebted to Mr. Worth for this most useful piece of work, and if he had kindly given us a glossary and an index, our indebtedness would have been at least doubled.

Catalogue of Manx Crosses, with the Runic Inscriptions and various Readings and Renderings compared. By P. M. C. KERMODE. (Isle of Man: J. Craine, 1887.) 8vo., pp. 36.

Manxmen are justly proud of their antiquities, and what is more, they like to make them known to others. This catalogue is most opportune, coming at a time when Canon Isaac Taylor has created renewed interest in the subject by his learned treatise on Manx runnes. There are seventy crosses in this little island showing Runic work; and a well described and annotated catalogue is a boon which all antiquaries will know how to prize. Why does not every parish

in England emulate such an example, and spend a few pounds in giving us a catalogue of its antiquities? What a treasure-house of knowledge we should have!

Yorkshire Notes and Queries. Edited by J. HORSFALL TURNER. (London : Trübner, etc., October, 1887.) 8vo.

The richest section in this part is, we think, that on folklore ; but all are worthily represented, and will go towards making this local journal of equal value with its confrères, now happily appearing in many parts of the country. Each section is pagéd separately, but is this a wise method?

The Best Plays of the Old Dramatists : William Congreve. Edited by ALEXANDER CHAS. EWALD. (London : Vizetelly and Co., 1887.) 8vo., pp. xlvi. 486.

The best plays of Congreve are taken to be *The Old Bachelor*, *The Double Dealer*, *Love for Love*, *The Way of the World*, and *The Mourning Bride*; in fact, all that Congreve wrote for the stage, and which had any success during his own lifetime. Mr. Ewald has, in preference to an account of Congreve, prefixed the well-known but always readable account of Macaulay. This is wise, but we venture to think that some more editorial and bibliographical notes are required to make this famous essay of Macaulay's properly fitted for its place as an introduction to the plays. The notes on topographical allusions in the plays are always acceptable, but might have been much extended. But the text being the main feature of this edition, makes it perhaps hypercriticism to pay attention to those other points. Congreve's plays are eminently readable, though licentious and free. In these characteristics, they partake of the spirit of the age ; and though the contemporary and some later criticism upon his style and wit is to our mind somewhat excessive, there can be no doubt that of all the playwriters since the Reformation, his work will stand always foremost among a band which are not the least distinguished in England's literature.

Pagan Pearls : a Book of Paraphrases, selected and arranged by ANNIE CATHERINE RANDELL. (London : Stock, no date.) 12mo., pp. xiii. 96.

It is well that through a pretty, handy little book some of the best sayings of pre-Christian moralists should be made known. Some years ago the writer of this review received a memorial card of the death of a friend, and on it were three mottoes—all beautiful—one each from the writings of St. Paul, Confucius, and the Rig Veda. Why should not these stand side by side in the cause of morality and truth? The present collection is happily divided into sections, the best of which are those dealing with conduct, death, happiness, humanity, knowledge, self-control, the state, and wisdom. We hope for this little book a large sale.

Correspondence.

[*Ante*, pp. 118, 156.]

Referring to the very interesting article on Felton in the *Antiquary*, you will no doubt have seen the account of the murder of the Duke of Buckingham by Felton in the Eleventh Report of the Historical Manuscripts Commission, appendix, part i., the MSS. of H. D. Skriven containing the Salvetti correspondence, pp. 161-3.—Your obedient servant,

J. ANDERSON.

11, Salisbury Street, Strand, W.C.
3rd September, 1887.

ORIGIN OF NAME FRENCH.

[*Ante*, vol. xiii, pp. 97, 182.]

The statements in "Notes on the Family of Frenche" would naturally attract the special notice of such of your readers as belong to that family. As one of them, allow me to express the interest which this article has excited, and likewise to offer a few comments upon it. I have sometimes thought that the pan-French family now in England must be very numerous, and have conceived the idea of a family gathering, say in London, for the purpose of making one another's acquaintance. But my notion of the origin of our special designation was certainly not that of Mr. A. D. Weld French and Sir Bernard Burke. I had assumed that as the *Welsh* family may be considered to derive their name from the adjective formed from the noun *Wales*, and so in other cases, so the *French* family received theirs from the noun *France* and its adjective *French*, as used in French language, French fashions, etc. According to this view, our ancestors were French people, and received their name from their nationality, just as the Smith family took theirs from occupation, and the Robinsons theirs from relationship.

If, however, as an historic fact, the name of our widespread family is derived, as Sir B. Burke declares, from *De Fraxinus* or *De Freigne*, it is plain, in the first place, that our relationship as members of a family is much closer than it would have been in the former case. But further, if *De Fraxinus* has gradually become changed so as ultimately to assume the form *French*, I submit that here we have a striking verbal example of "origin of species by gradual modification." The view taken, I have no doubt, by nine hundred and ninety-nine out of every thousand Frenches now in England as to the origin of their family name, is that of "separate creation," so to speak. "Here is a Frenchman, call him French;" just as "Here is a blacksmith, call him Smith." Now according to Mr. A. D. Weld French's article, this ready and simple explanation is entirely erroneous, the correct view being that *French* has been "evolved" by various modifications from *De Fraxinus*.

HENRY FRENCH.

5, Haines Hill, Taunton,
September 23, 1887.

[Our correspondent will find the derivation from *De Fraxinus* disposed of in a communication from Mr. J. H. Round. *Ante*, vol. xiii, 182.]

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